CROAKCREATE

by Kevin Del Valle

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DISCLAIMER

The following is not an in depth guide, it's purpose is to help beginners by cutting any unnecessary details in order to simplify the learning process. This is an independent project not affiliated with Procreate. Hopefully some of the stuff here will help you get started in your journey.

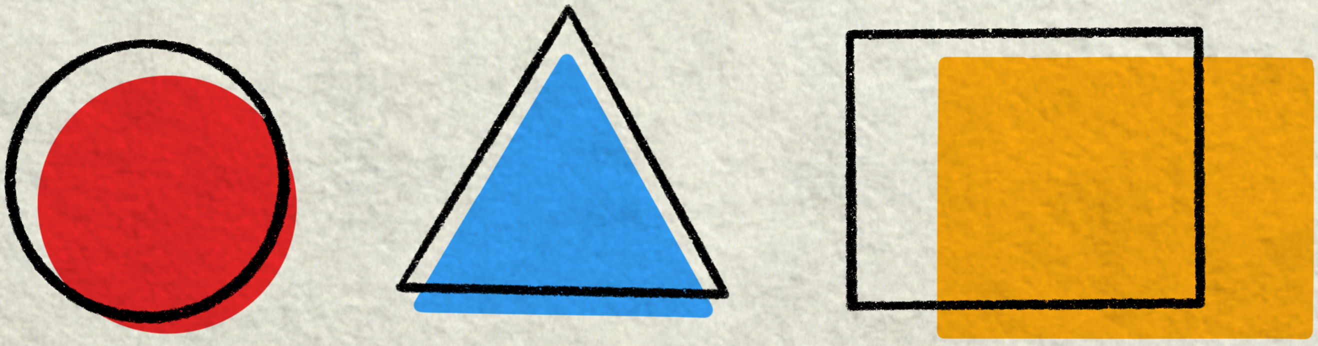
Clarity Precision Economy

"Today's obsession for speed and quantity has profoundly influenced the ways in which we think and feel.

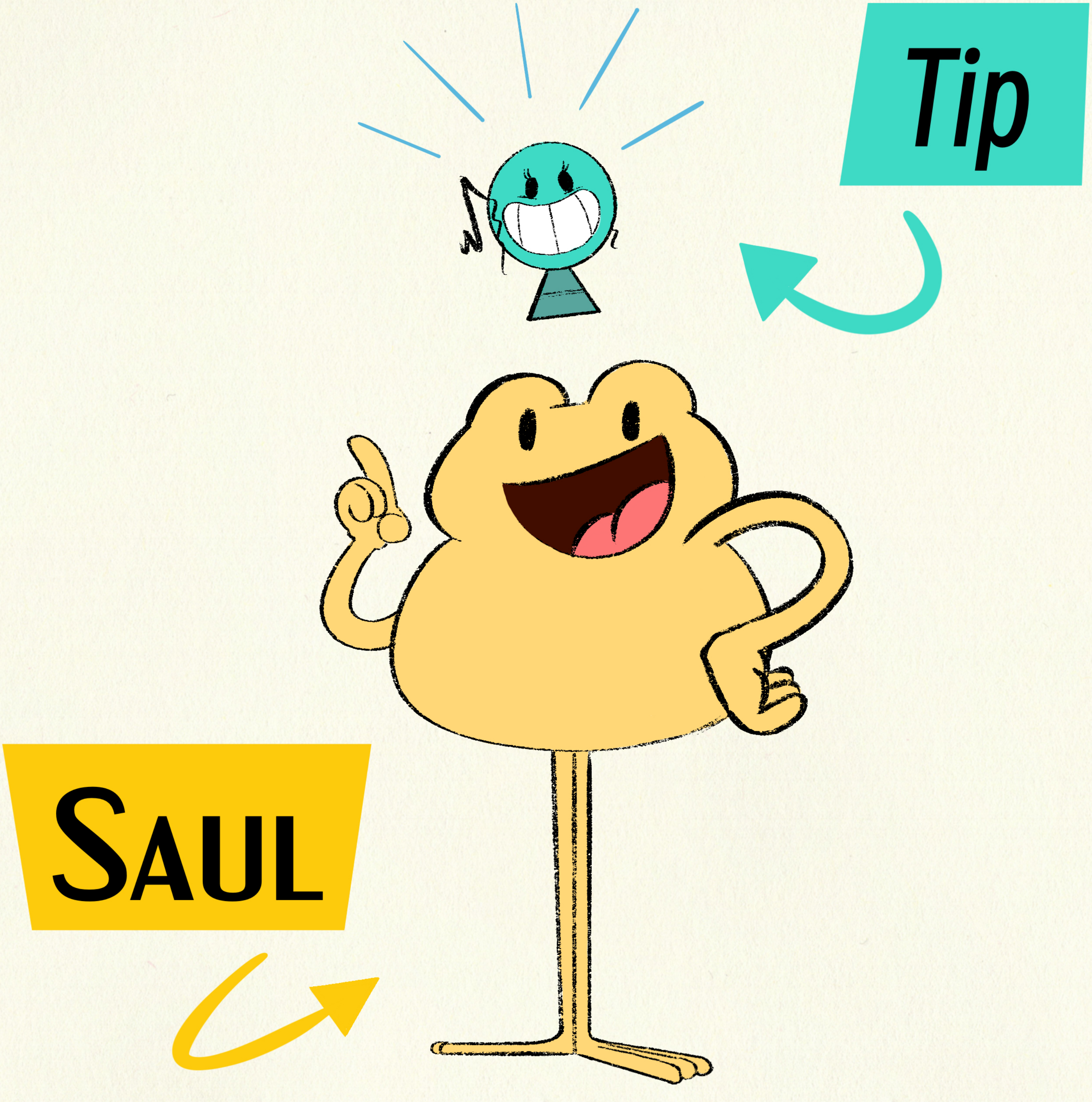
There is very little time now for the perception of unnecessary details. The duration of the visual impression is too short.

Clarity, Precision and Economy are compelling values in a world suffocating in the fight of cross-purposes"

-Gyorgy Kepes (1949, Function in Modern Design)

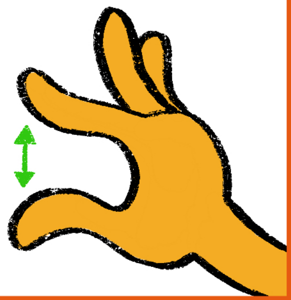


Guides



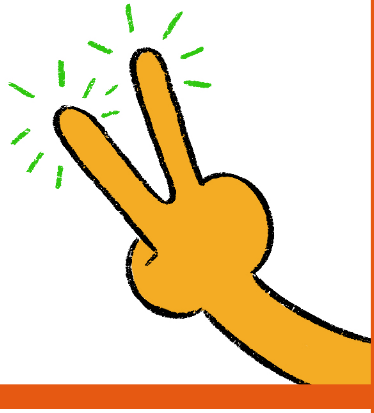
Pinch

Move, Zoom and Rotate



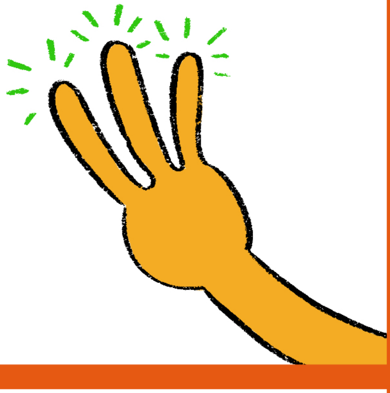
2 Finger Tap

Undo



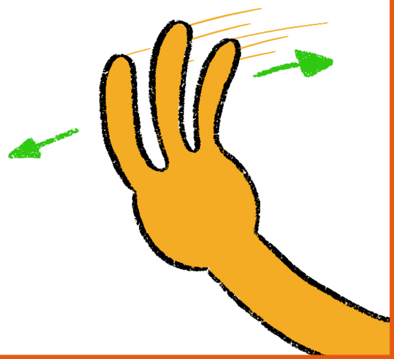
3 Finger Tap

Redo

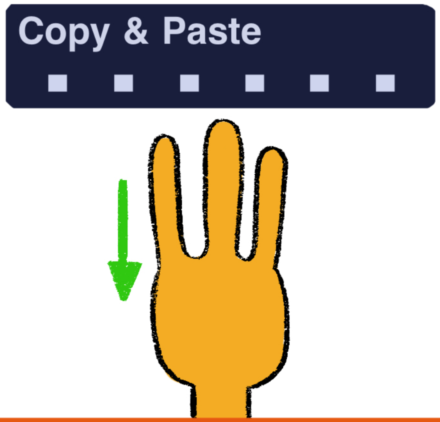


3 Finger Swipe

Clear Canvas

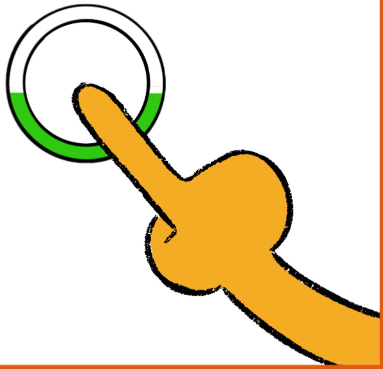


3 Finger Swipe Down

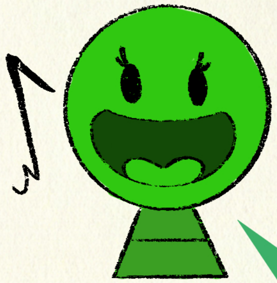


1 Finger Hold

Color Picker



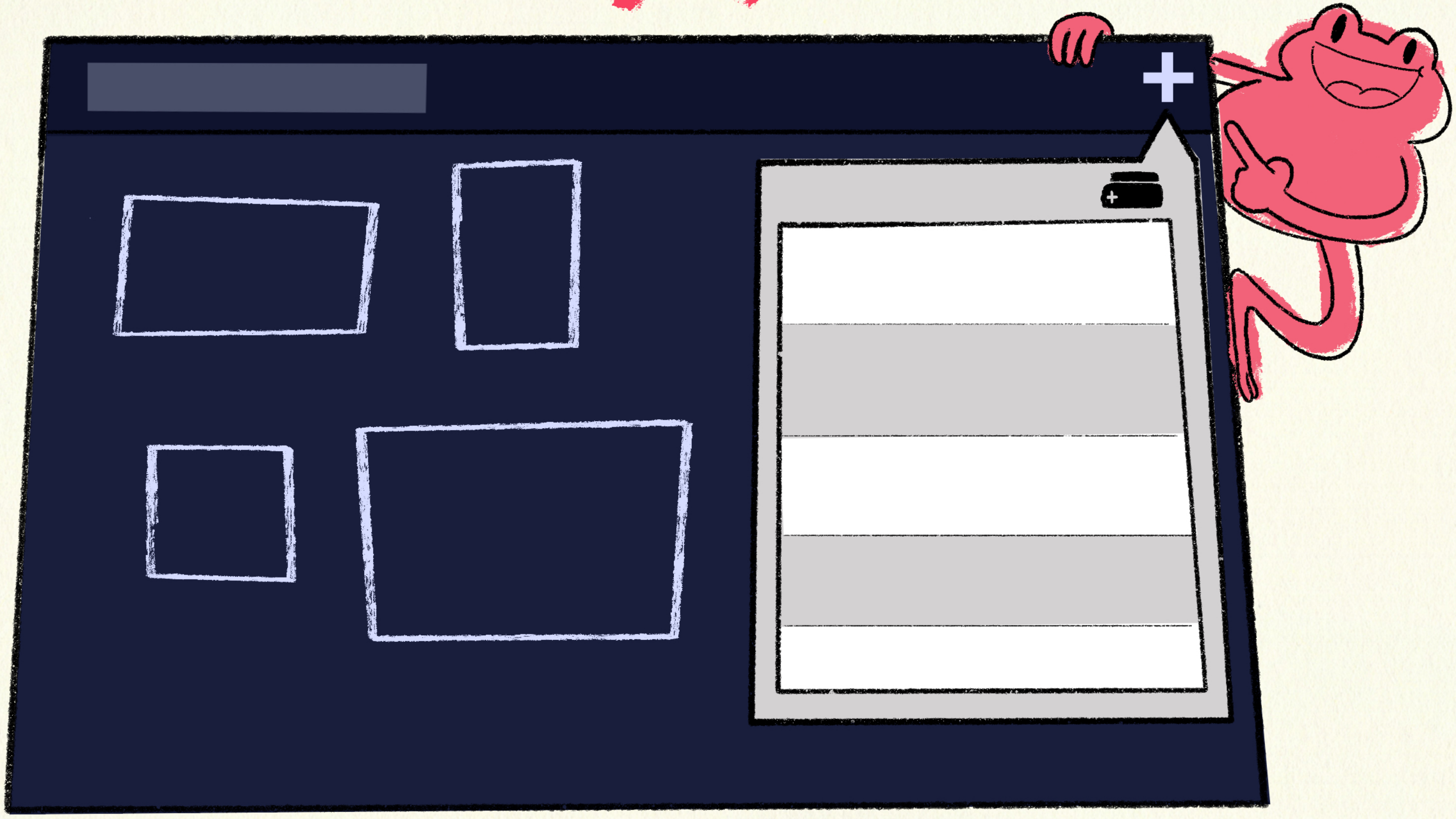
Gestures



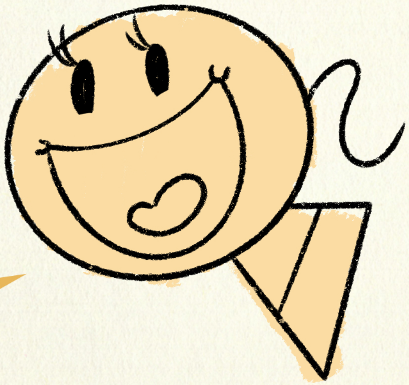
Your hand is the most important tool in Procreate With these gestures you'll be able to navigate the Procreate UI. Move, Zoom, Pinch, Undo, etc.

New Project

Create a new project by tapping the plus [+] icon.

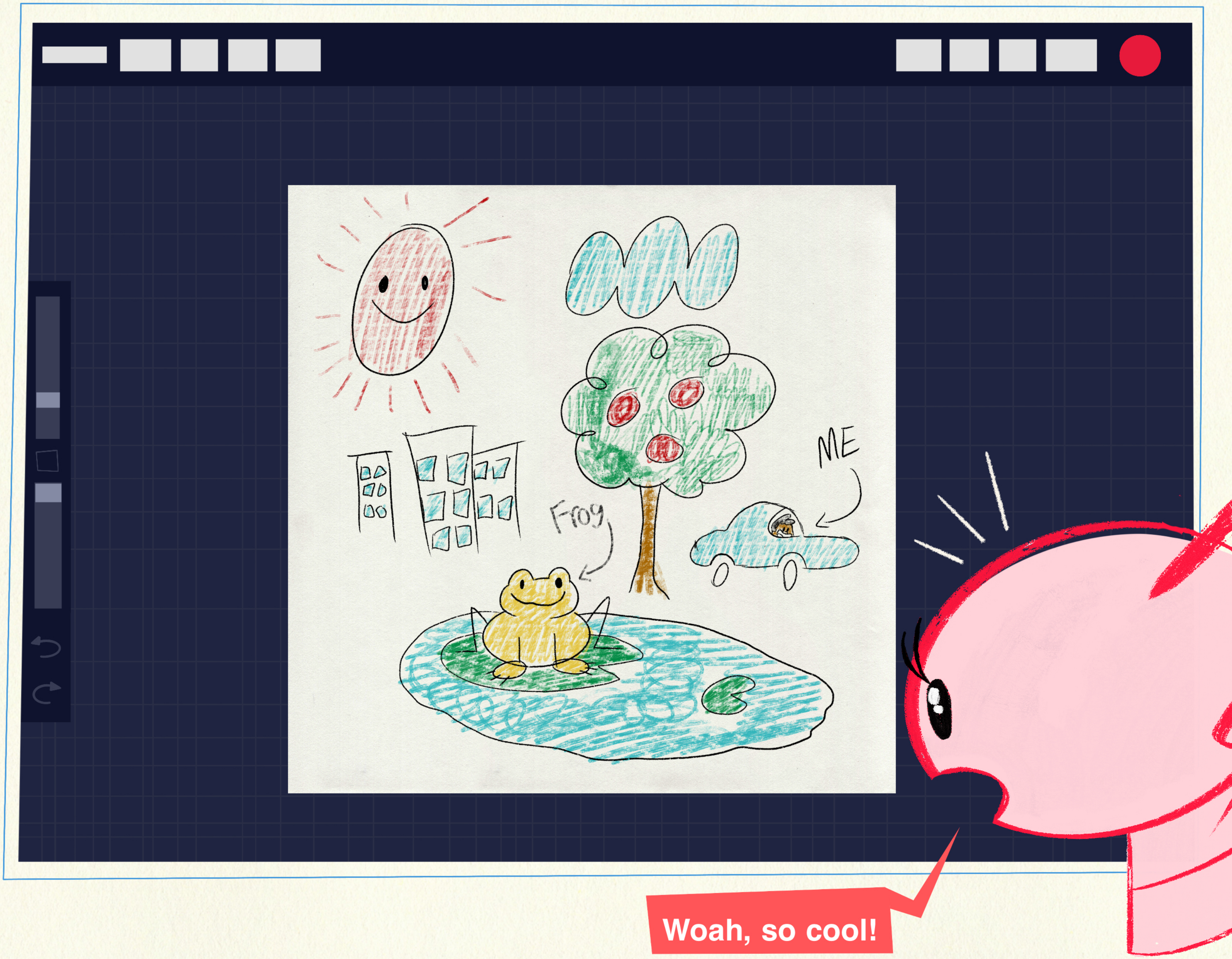


There's multiple sizes to choose from and you can also create your own custom size. Just press ⊞



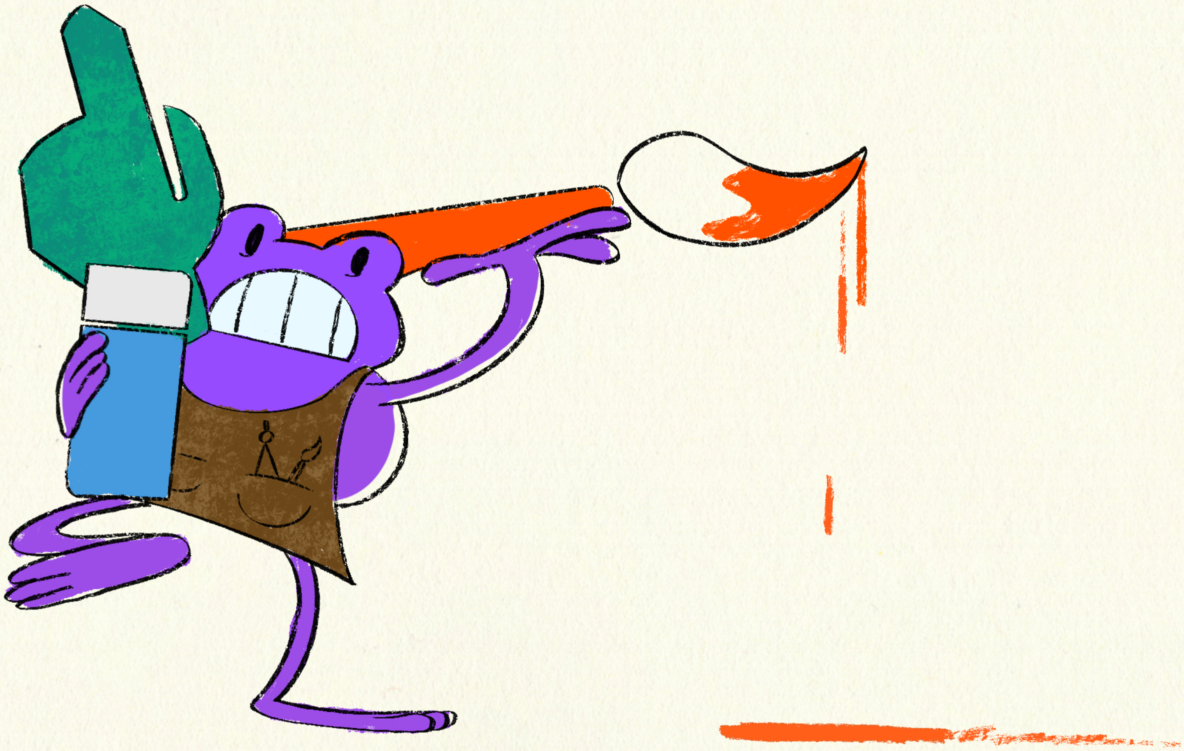
Interface

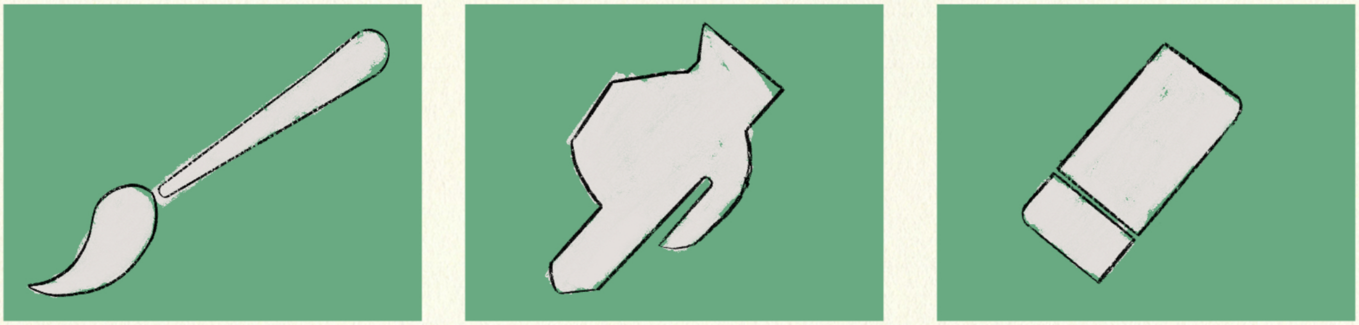
Anything you can imagine, you can create here.


ME
Frog
Woah, so cool!

Tools

There are 3 main tools in procreate

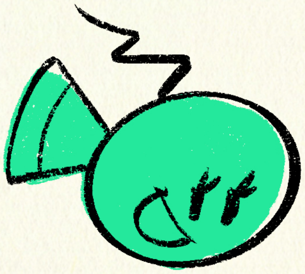




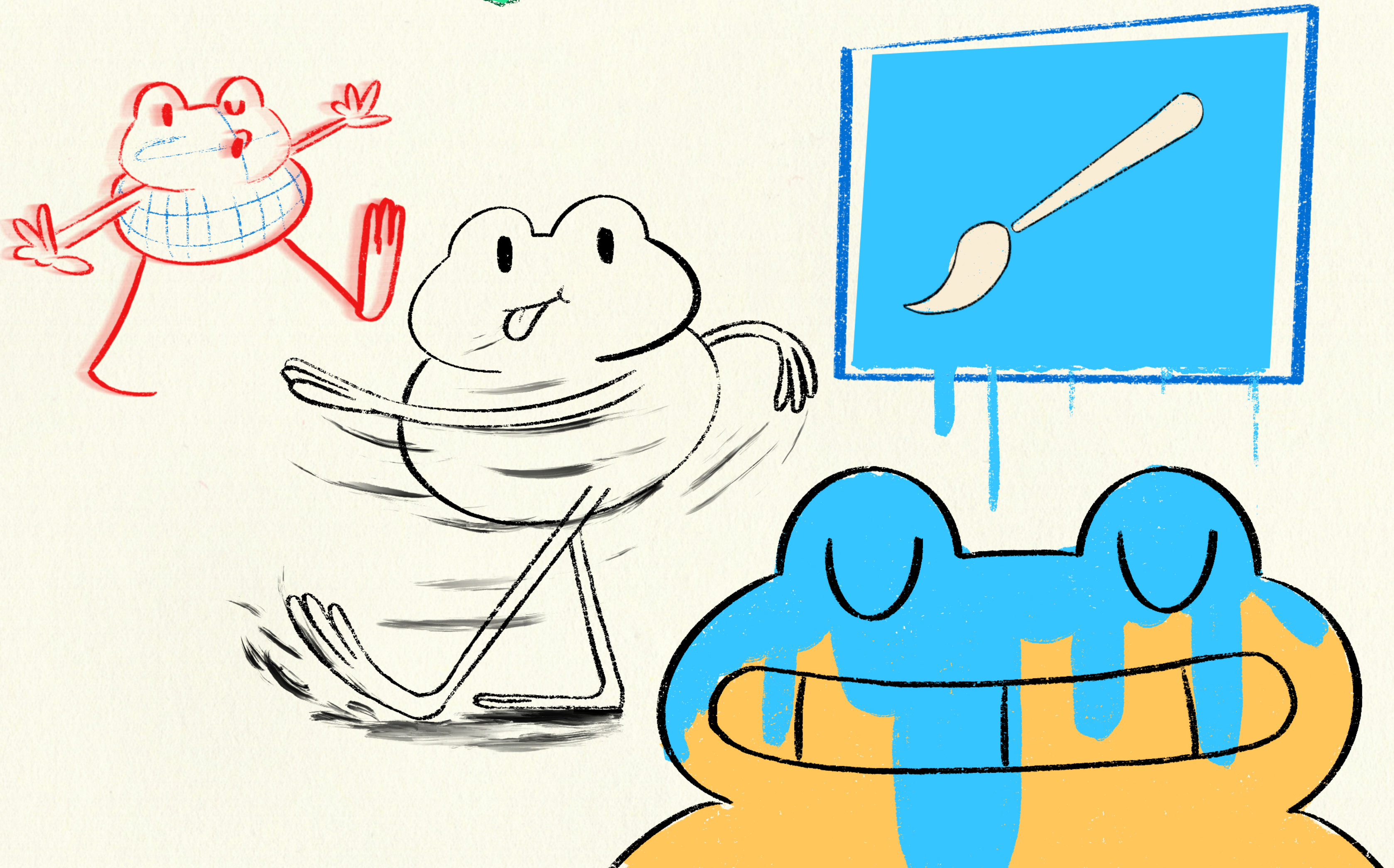
Your drawing tools have a huge library you can keep expanding

Brushes

Tap on the paint brush icon to start drawing.
Sketching, inking, painting, etc!

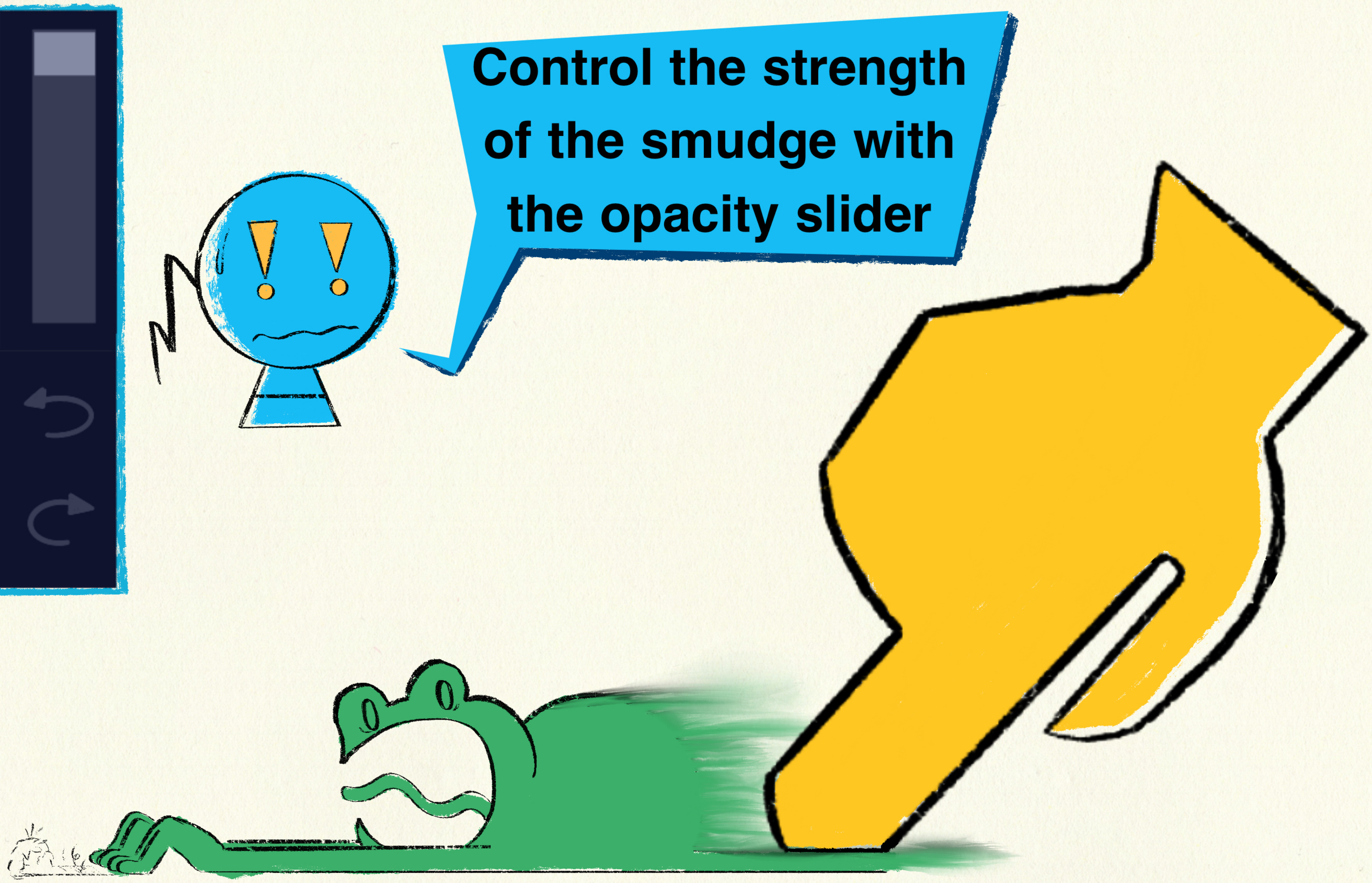


Tap it once more to view your brush library.



Smudge

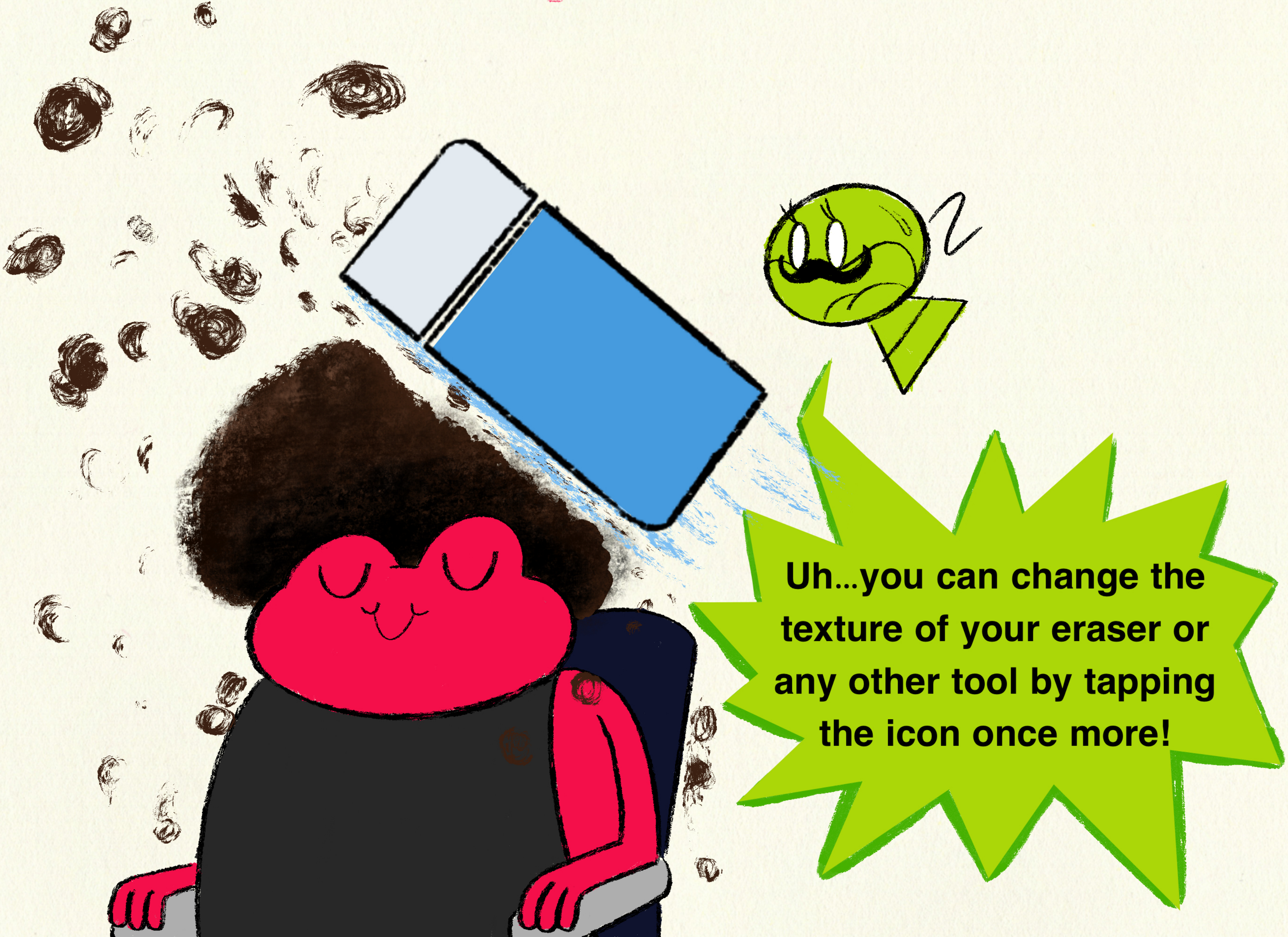
The smudge tool allows you to blend your selected artwork.



Control the strength of the smudge with the opacity slider

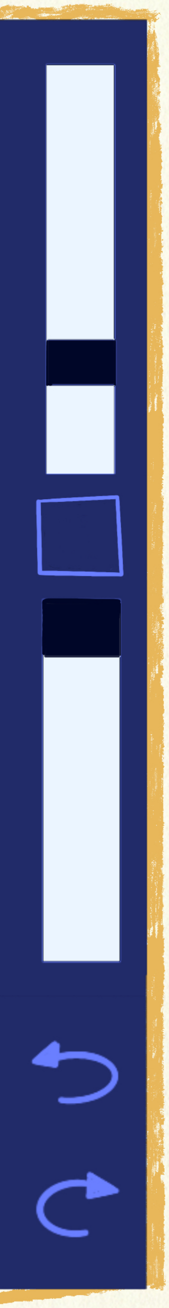
Eraser

Erase away any happy accidents you’ve made

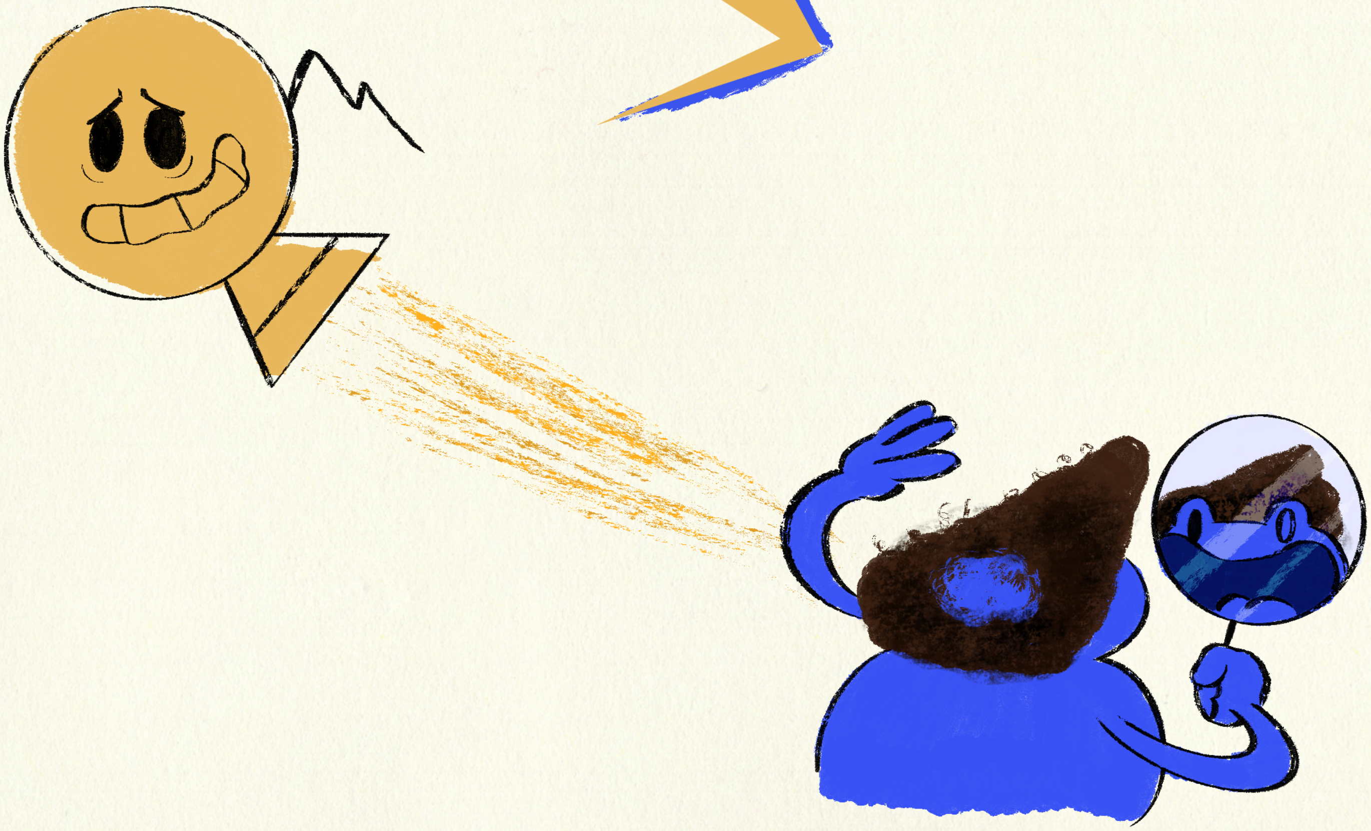

Uh...you can change the texture of your eraser or any other tool by tapping the icon once more!

Slider

Toggle both size and opacity of your selected tool

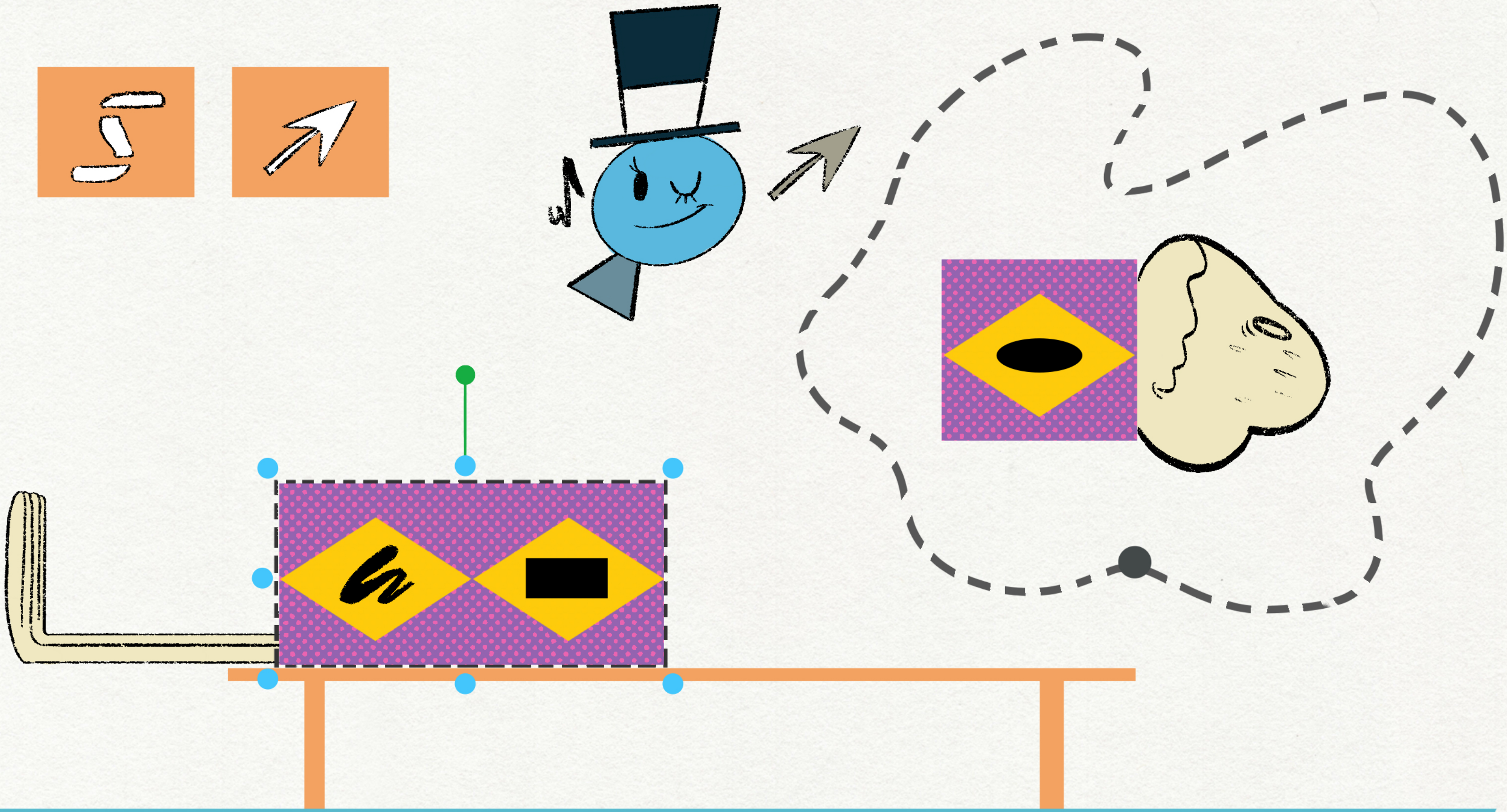


You can also press the square in the middle for color selector and the arrows for undo/redo



Selection Tools

The selector tool allows you to edit drawings with Resize, Flip, Distort and Warp. Use the lasso for more precise selection options like the freehand by drawing your selection or polygon by tapping for more straight lines.



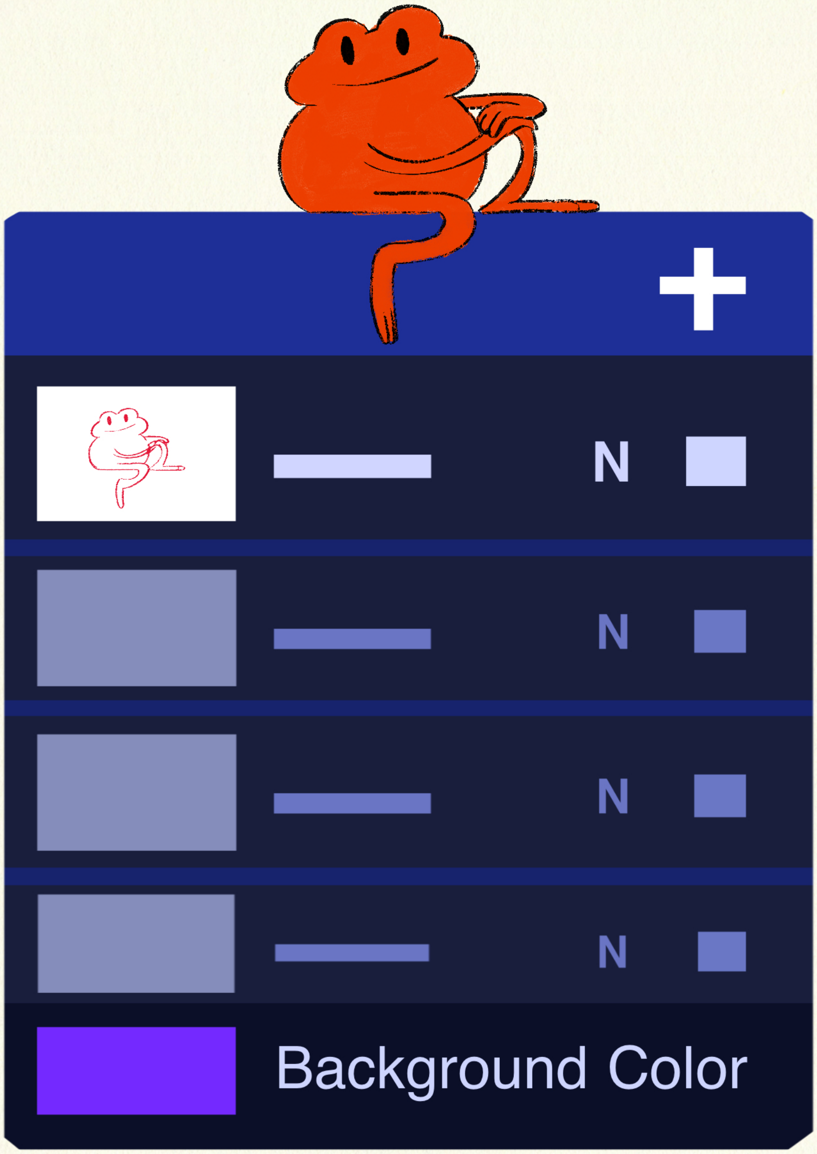
You can also use polygon tool to make shapes

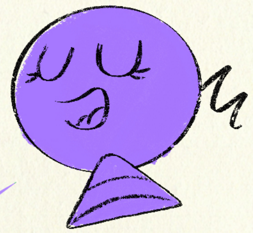
LAYERS

Layers

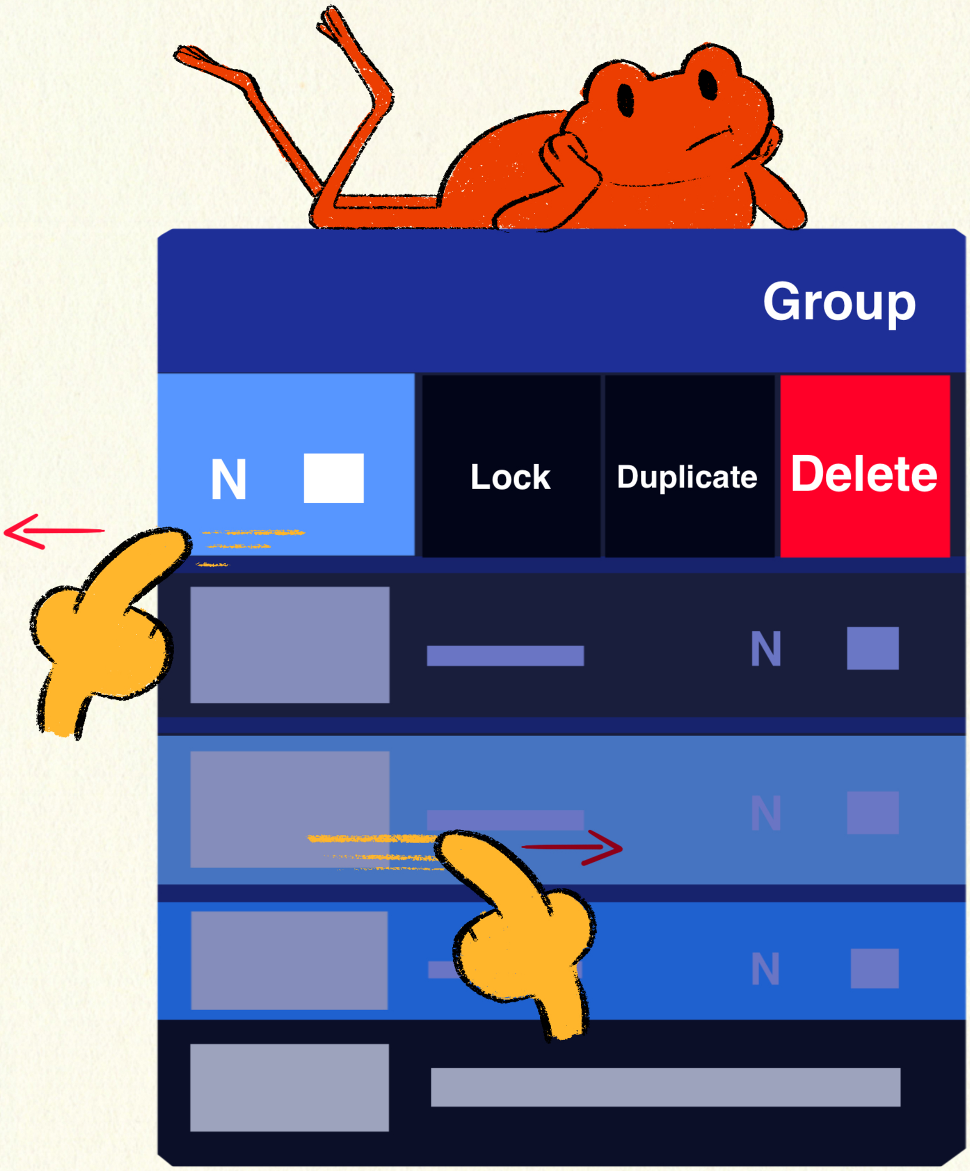
Layers separate your work, keeping everything from becoming one big mesh

+ = New Layer
☐ = Preview
— = Rename
N = Blend Modes
■ = On/Off toggle





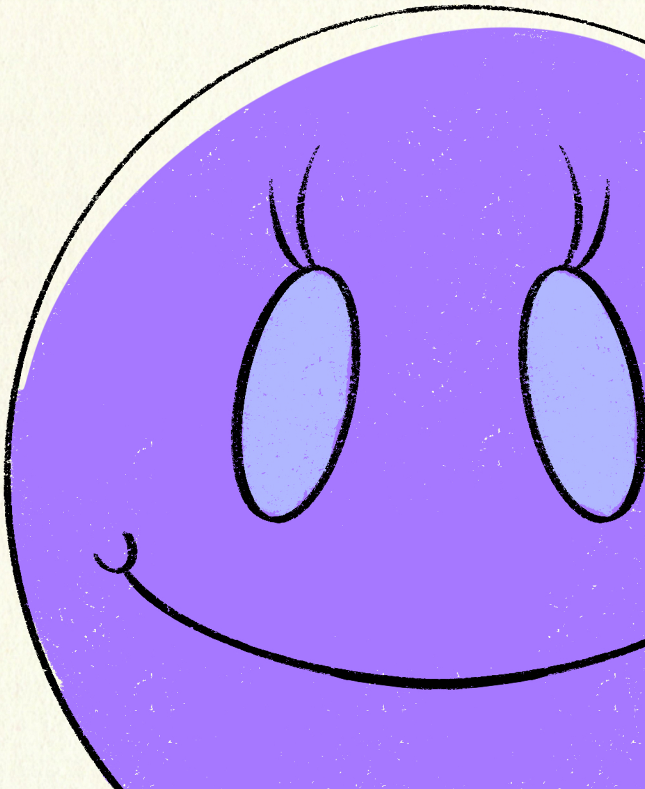
Background Color: This is a default solid color separate from from your layers. You can change the color or turn it off.


Group
N
Lock
Duplicate
Delete
N
N
N

-Slide left to see
action commands

-Tap on the layer once
to see options

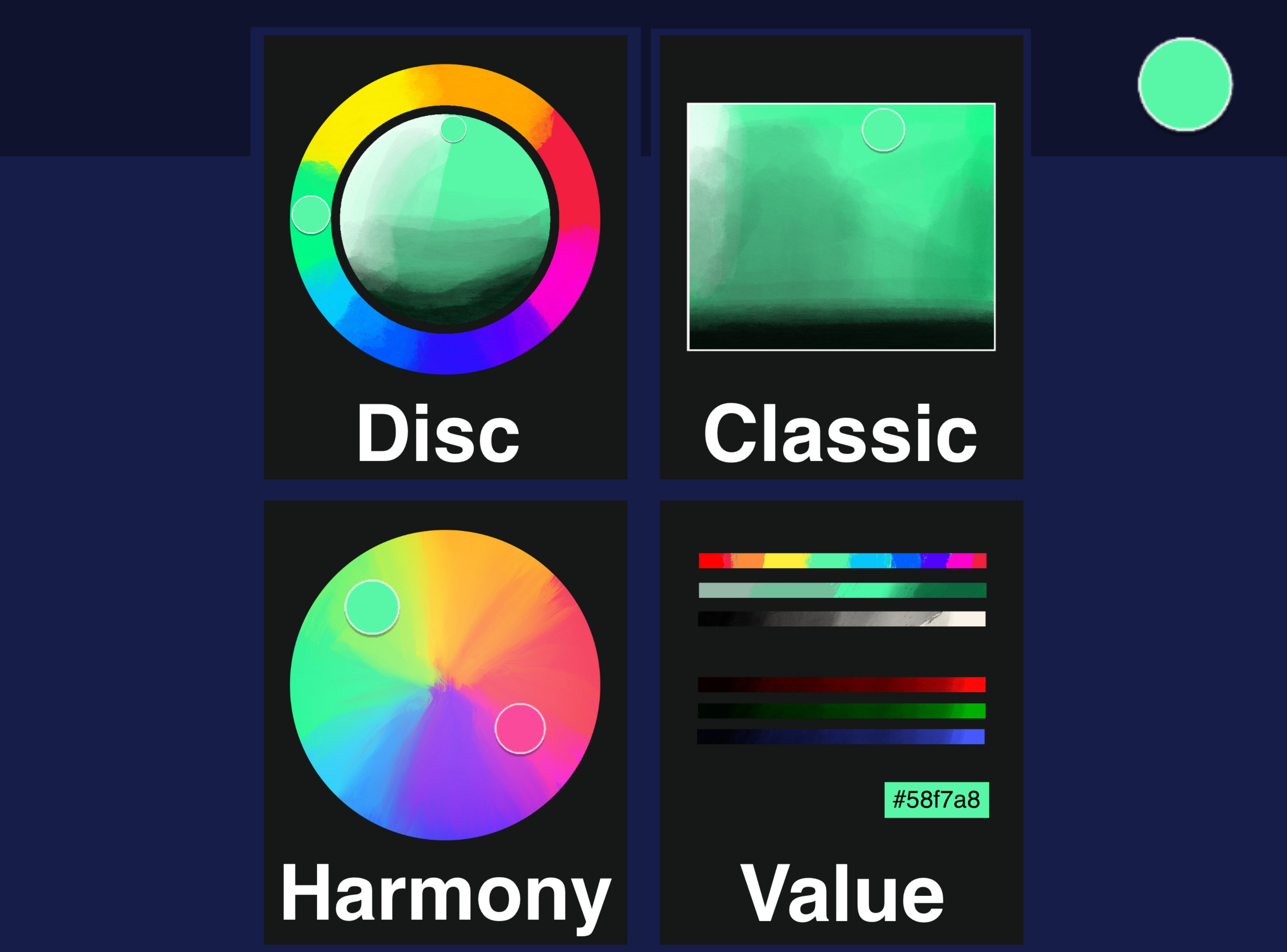
-Slide right for
multi select and group



Blend Modes

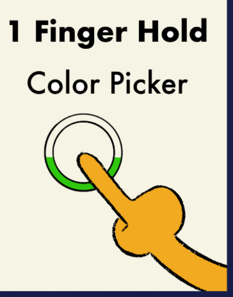
Blend modes interact with the layers below to create interesting visual possibilities

Colors


Disc
Classic
Harmony
Value
#58f7a8

These are the 4 types of interfaces for color selecting. Disc, Classic, Harmony, Value.
Select the best one that works for you.

If you need to color pick a specific color, tap and hold the screen.
For color dropping, drag and drop the color icon


1 Finger Hold
Color Picker

Hue, Saturation and Value

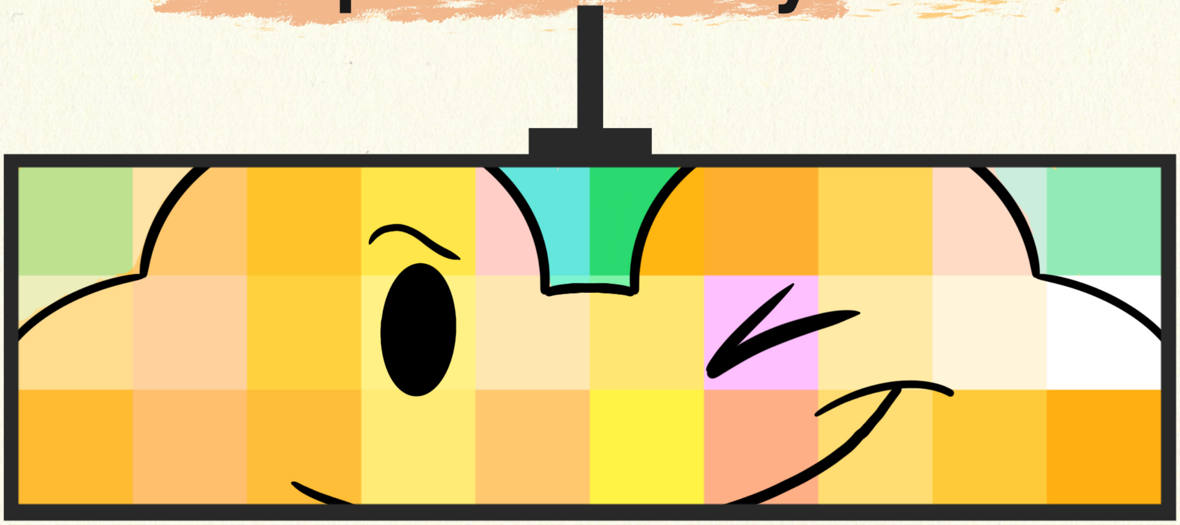
Hue: is the position of color on the color wheel

Saturation: is the intensity of that color

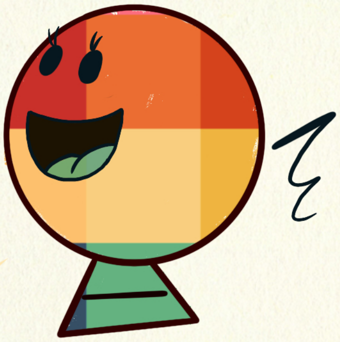
Value: Is the amount of darkness to lightness

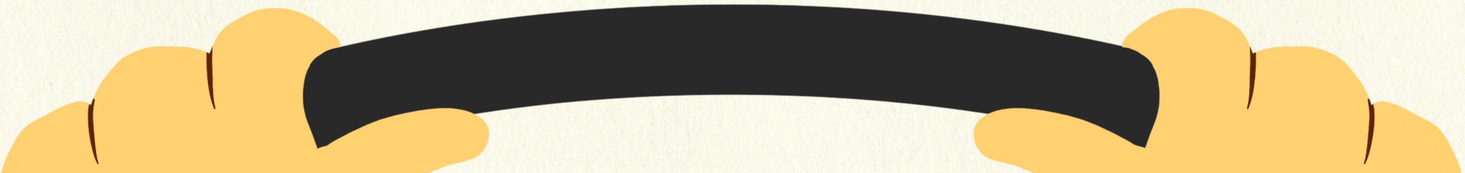
Palettes

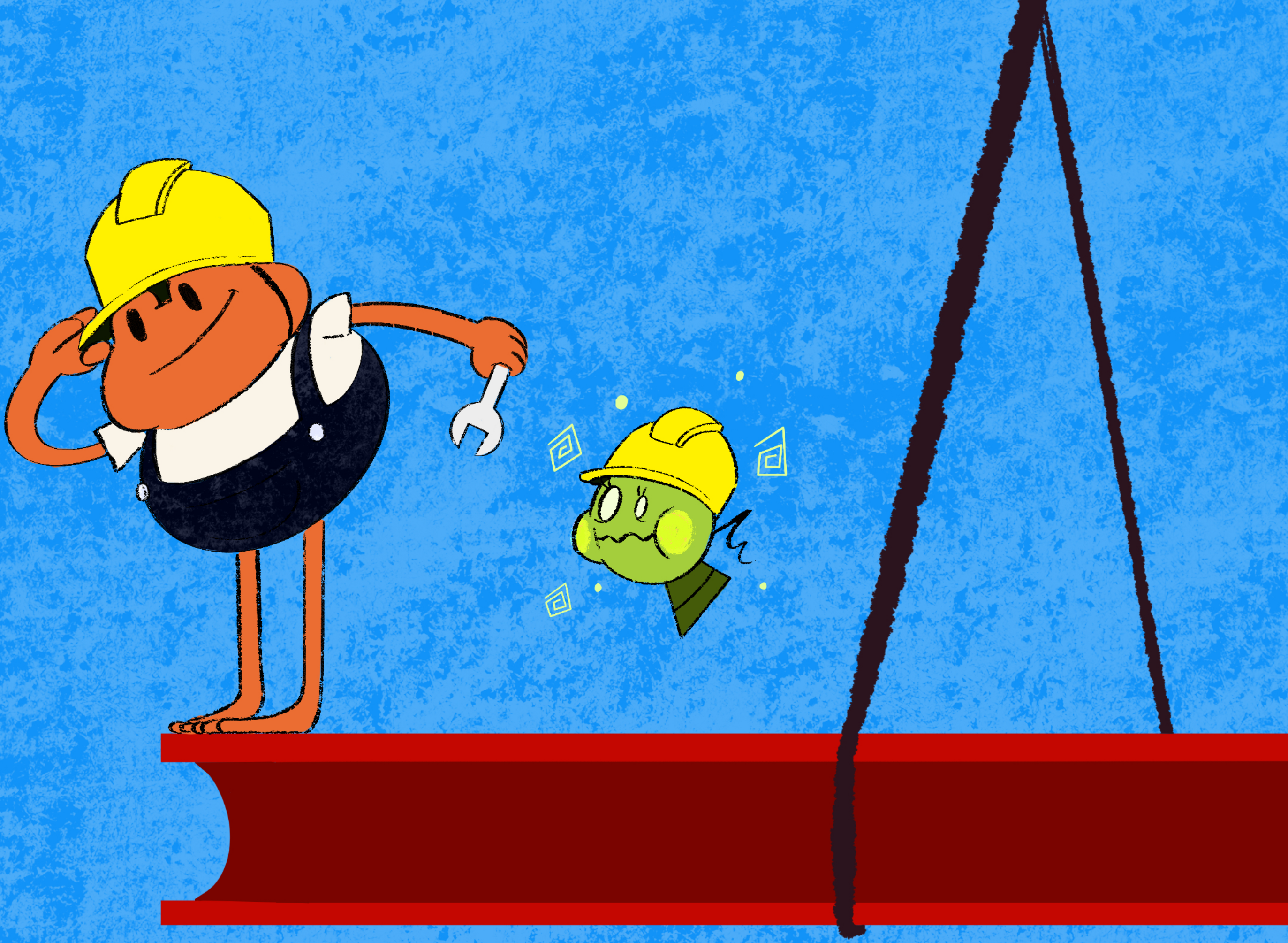
Save individual colors as swatches in your custom palettes. Simply tap on an empty square to save your current color permanently!



If you wish to delete a swatch then just tap and briefly hold the desired color and a delete prompt will appear.







Actions

Here you'll be able to insert images, export, adjust canvas, add text and so much more

Add

Insert File

Import files from your cloud

Insert Photo

Import photos from your album

Take Photo

Uses your camera

Add Text

Write and edit text

Cut

Cut selected drawing

Copy

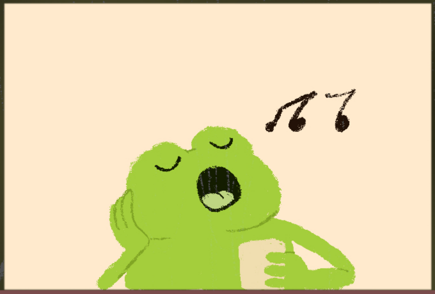
Copies selected drawings

Copy Canvas

Copies entire canvas

Paste

Insert anything that was Copied/Cut

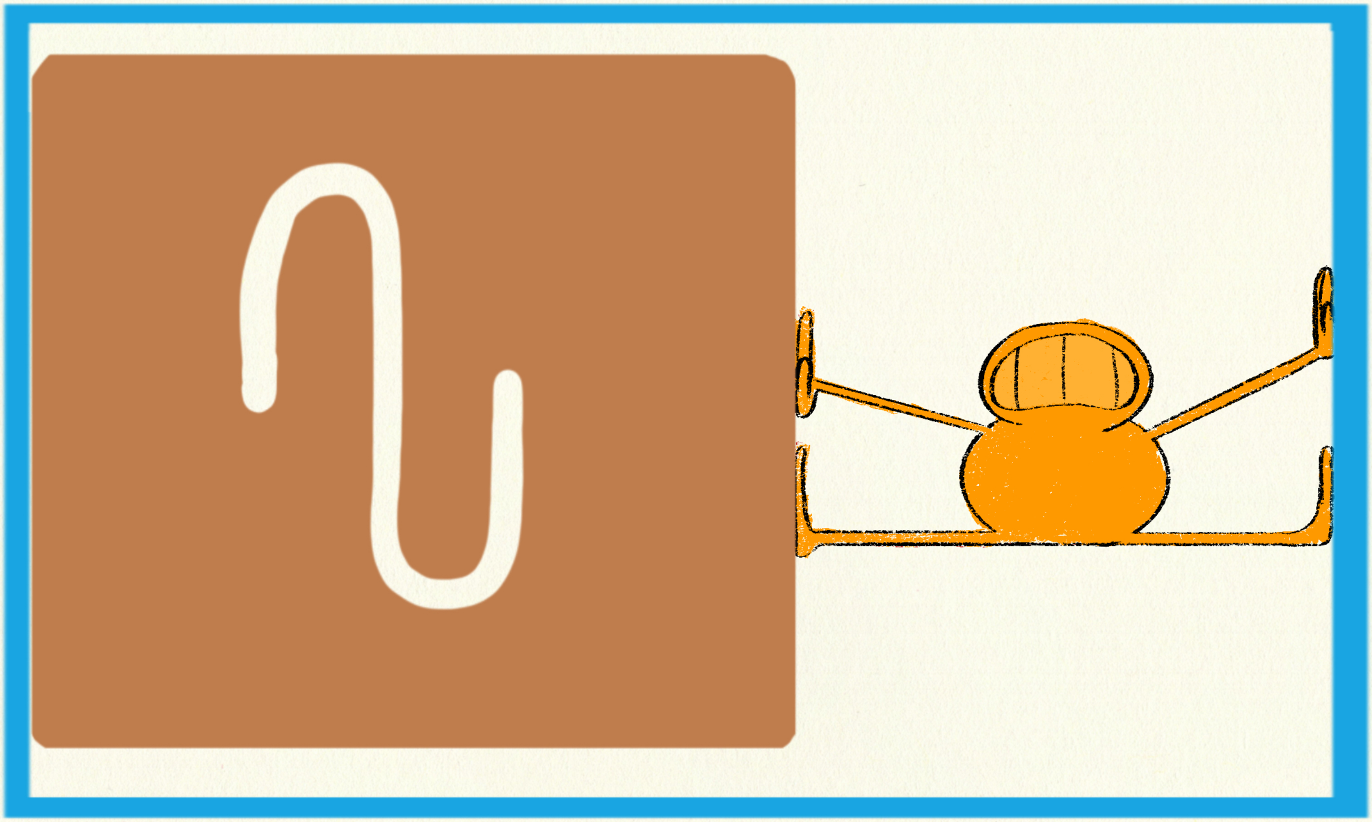


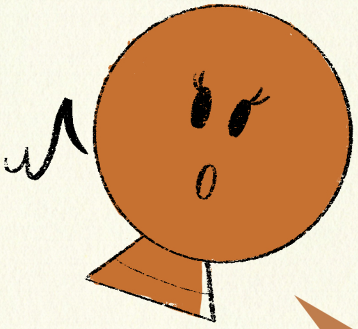
Canvas

Canvas

Crop & Resize

Readjust the size of your canvas



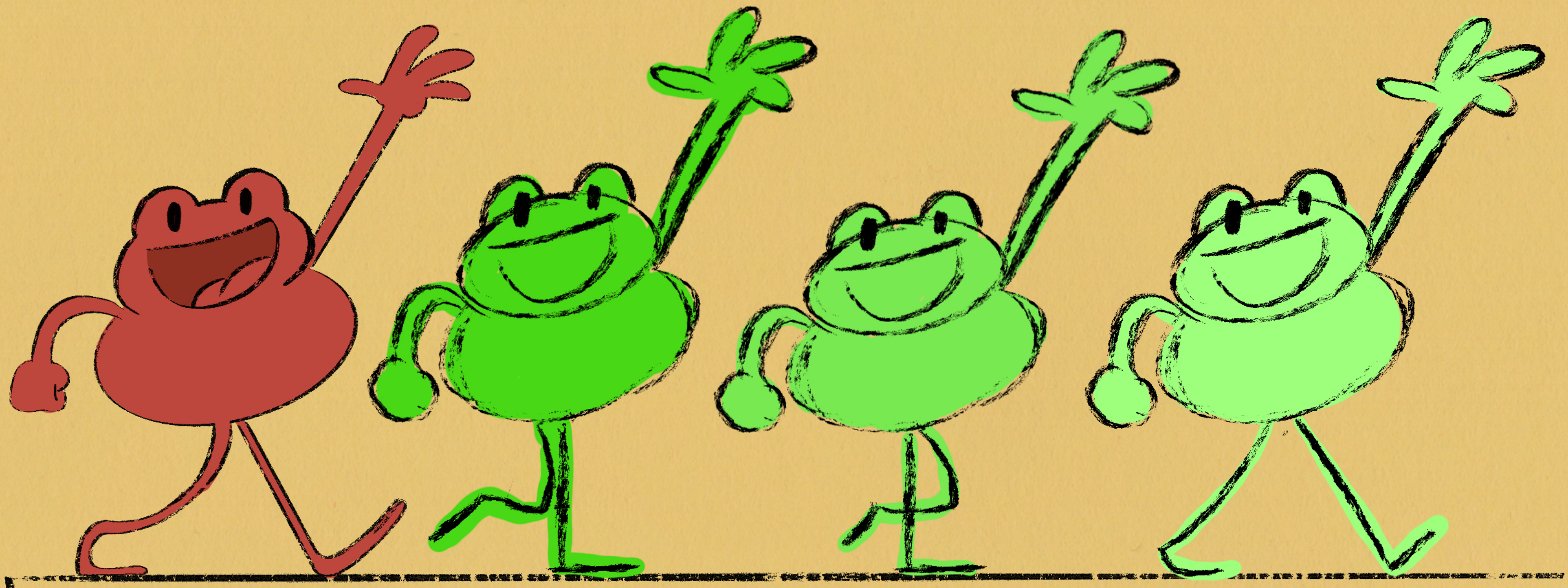


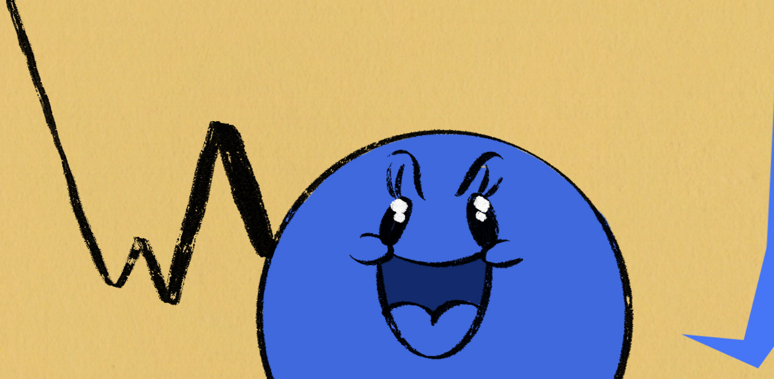
Be mindful of layer limits when expanding size

Canvas

Animation Assist

Animation assist will allow you to turn Procreate into a tradigital animation software. Storyboards, Animations and Motion Graphics are all able to be done here.





Here are some simple animation tips for Procreate

Intermission

Here’s a 5 episode mini series I made here on Procreate. This is just an example of the cool stuff you can do too!

Joy & Freedom - Episodes 1-5

https://youtu.be/LNhQJhPORcc?si=fV9xc_I_QrtHPG18

I’ve been using Procreate for animation purposes even before the animation assist feature and seeing how far animation has come in the software to the point it’s getting it’s own animation focused app (Procreate Dreams) makes me so happy and excited for the future of animation

Principles of Animation

1: Solid Drawing

2: Arcs

3: Staging

4: Anticipation

5: Timing

6: Appeal

7: Exaggeration

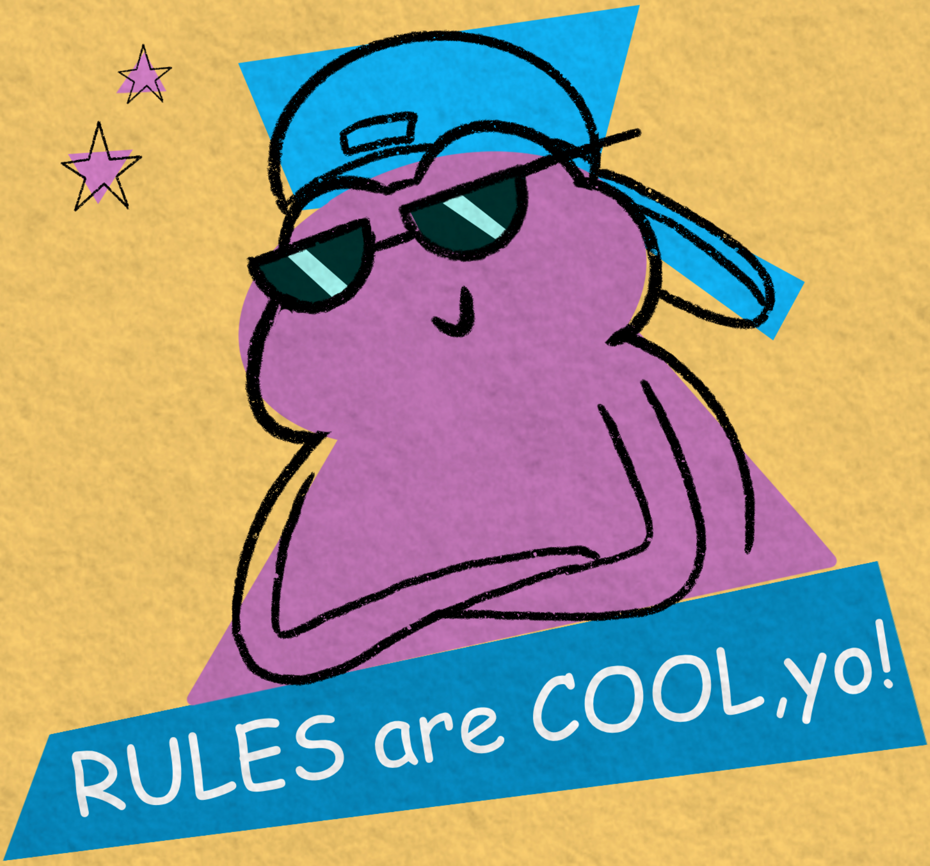
8: Squash & Stretch

9: Secondary Action

10: Follow Through /Overlapping Action

11: Ease in / Ease out

12: Straight ahead / Pose to pose


RULES are COOL,yo!

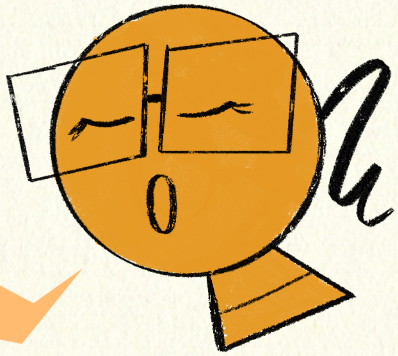
As you go deeper into animation, go back and remember the principles

Canvas

Page Assist

Turn individual layers into an organized sequence of pages. This feature is perfect for Comic Artists, Storyboarders and for people that just want to have a digital sketchbook.

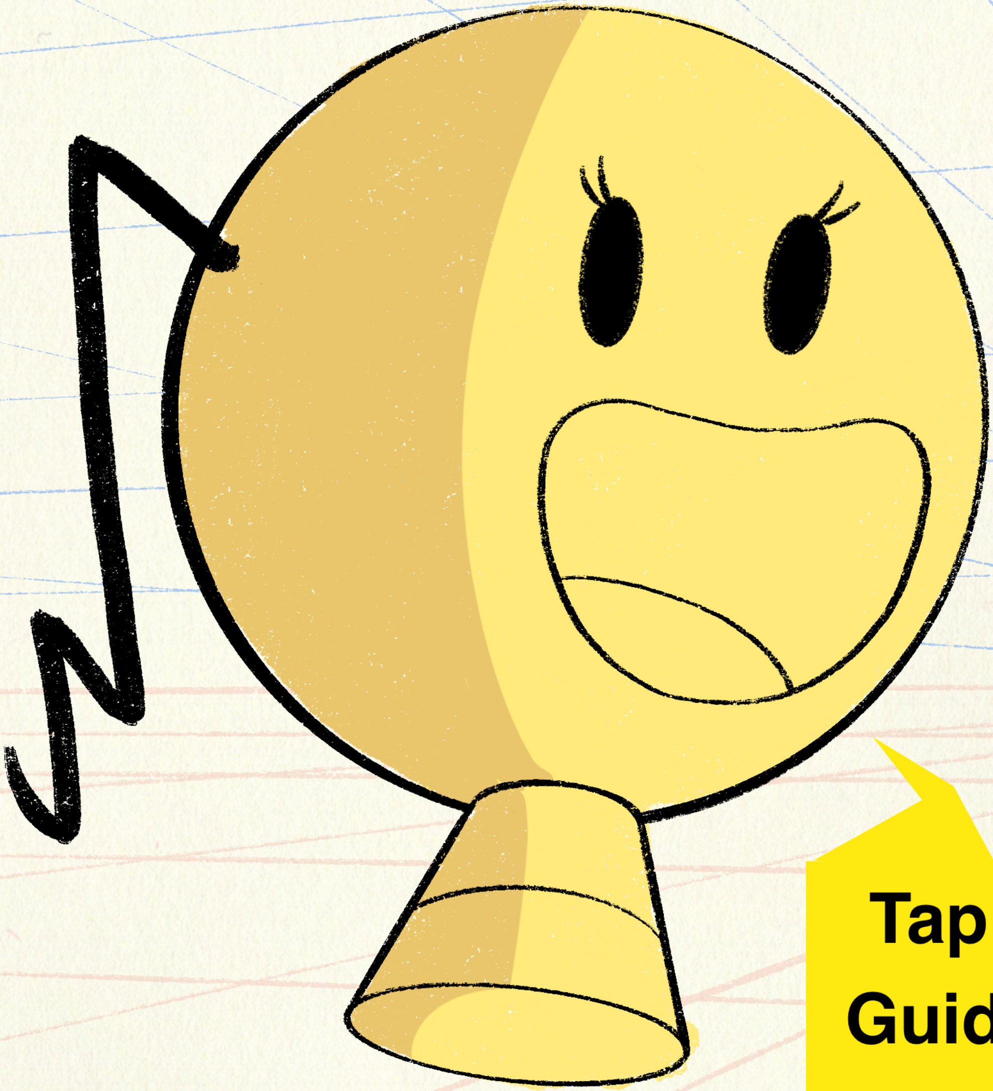
You can export all your pages as PDF to create pamphlets, storyboards or even books like this one!

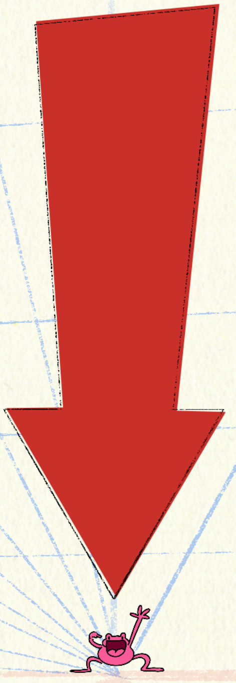


Canvas

Drawing Guides

Need some assistance? Here's where you'll be able to enable 2D Grids, Isometric, Symmetry and Perspective guides



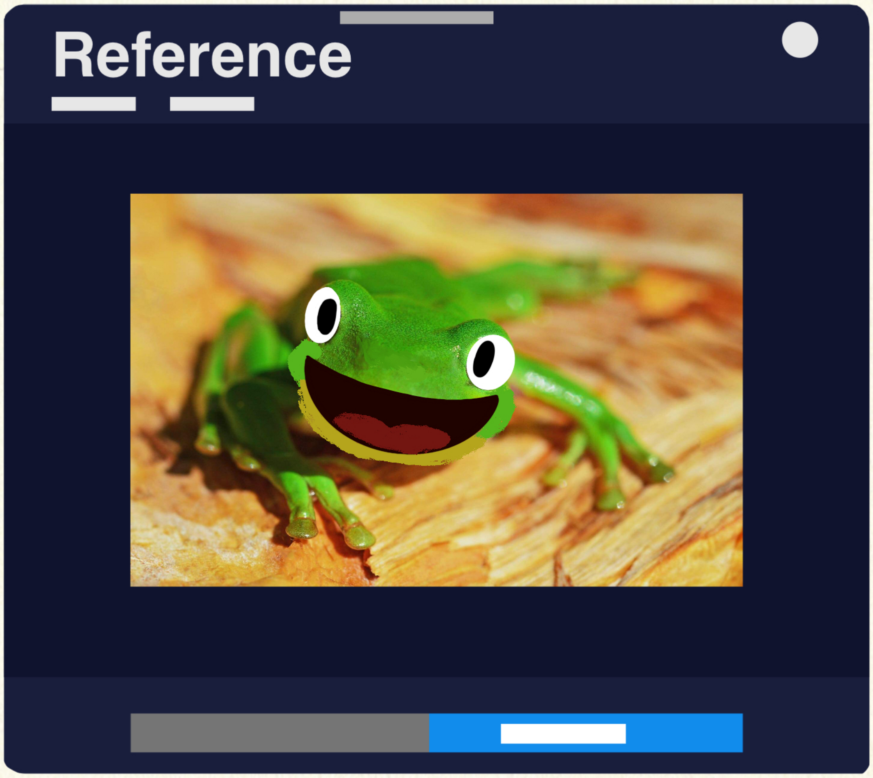


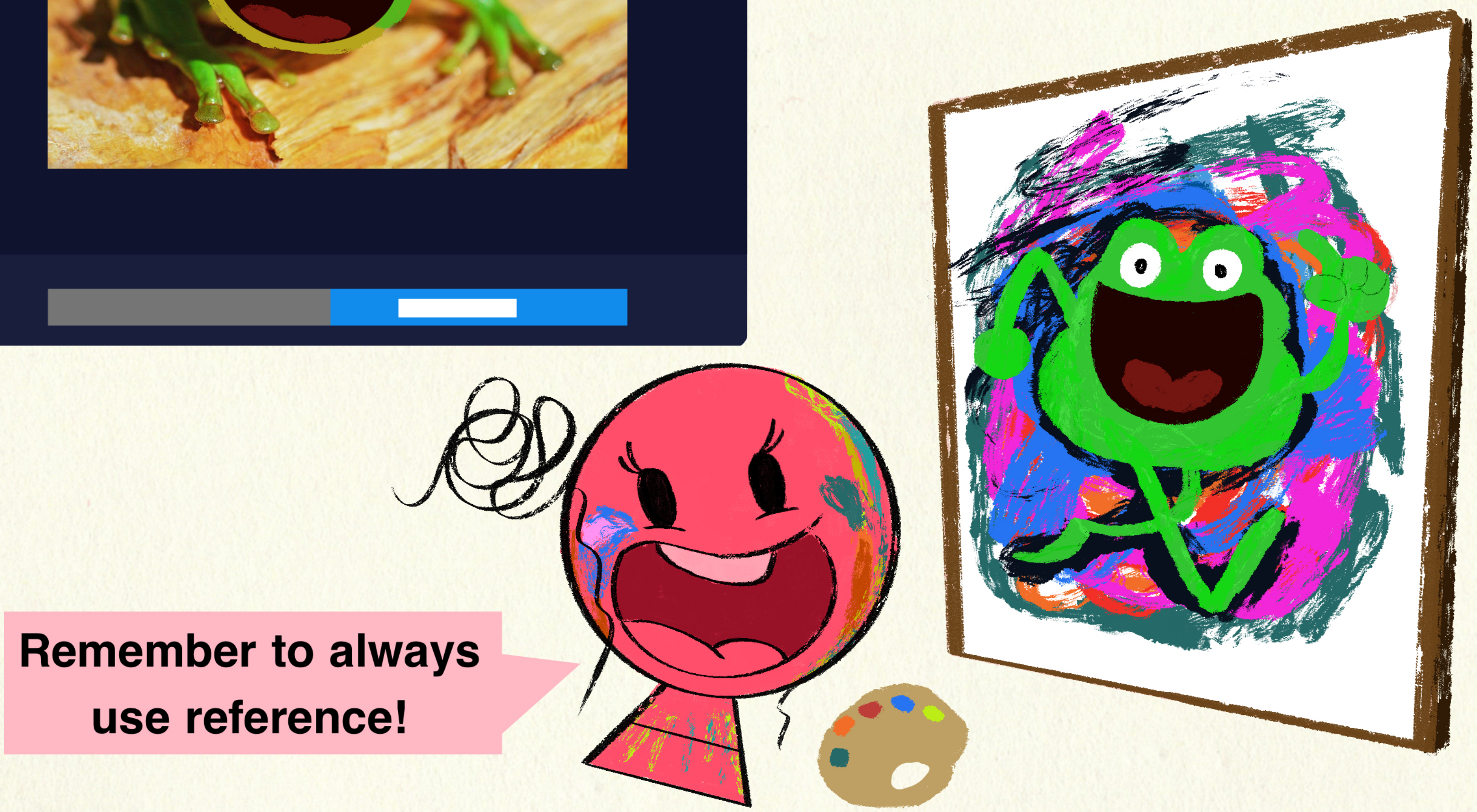
Tap on "Edit Drawing Guide" to choose your guide of choice

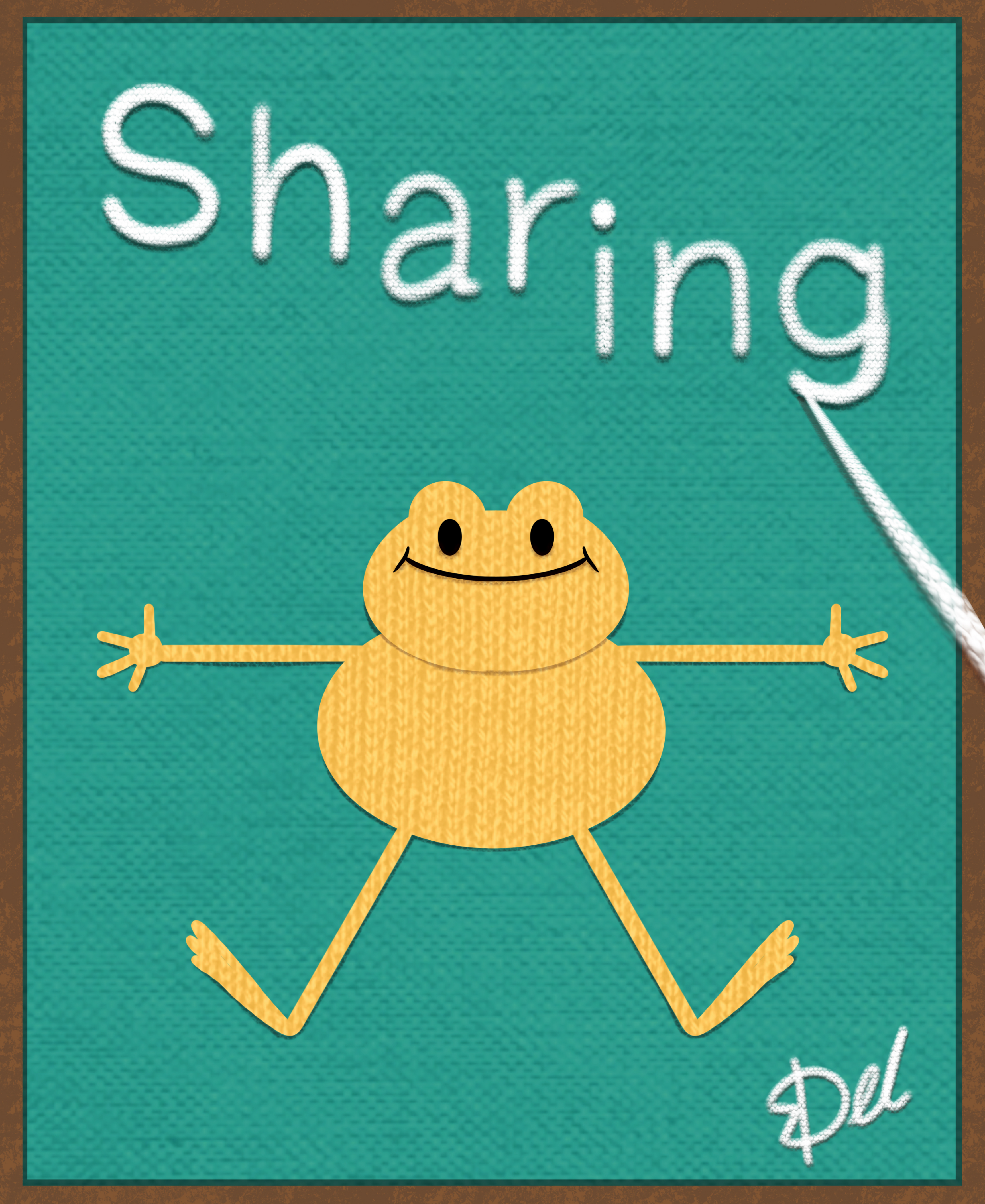
Canvas

Reference Companion

A separate window will pop up allowing the use of a reference image without needing to split the screen. Select the image option, then import your image from your photo album

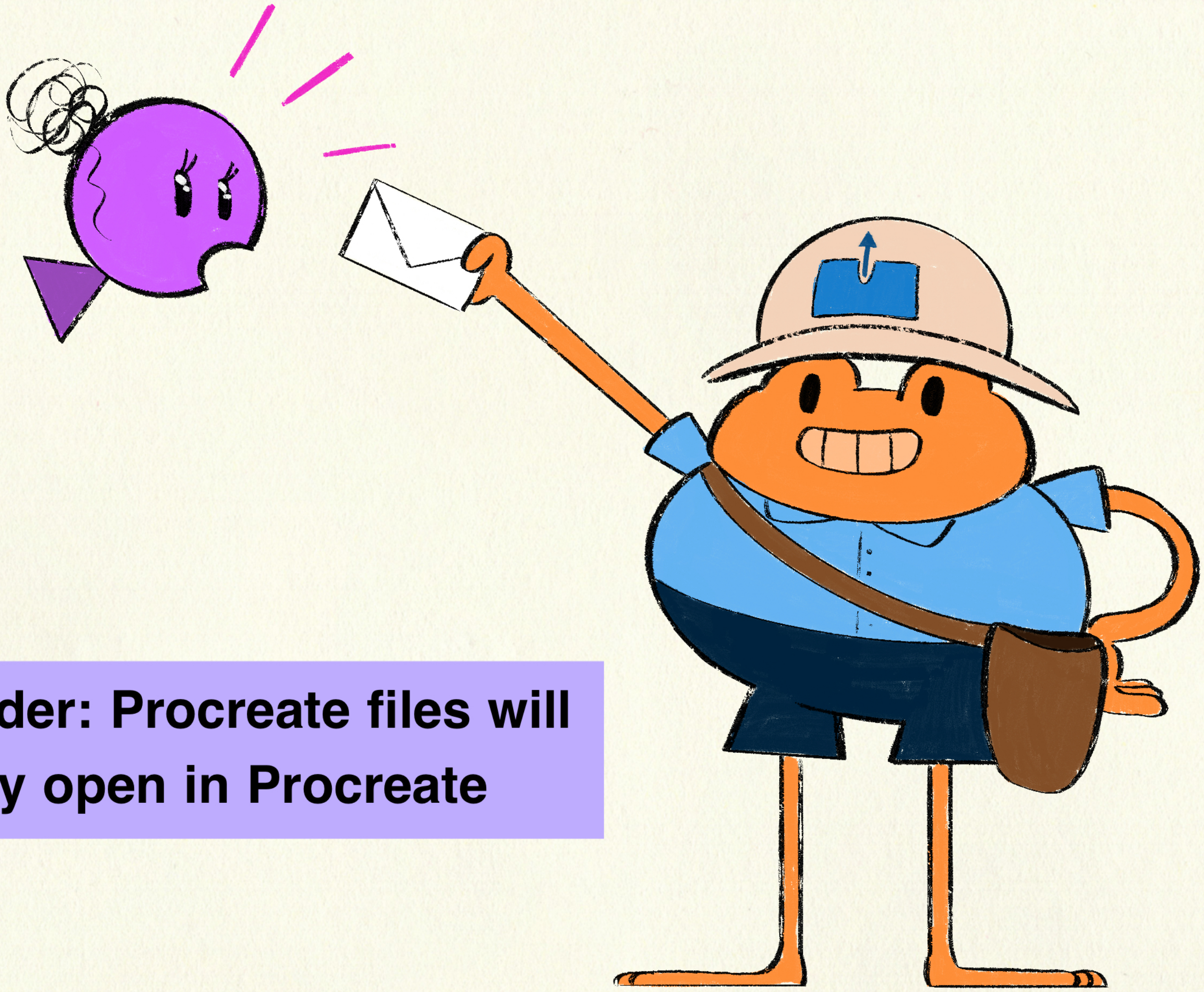



Remember to always use reference!


Sharing
Del

Share

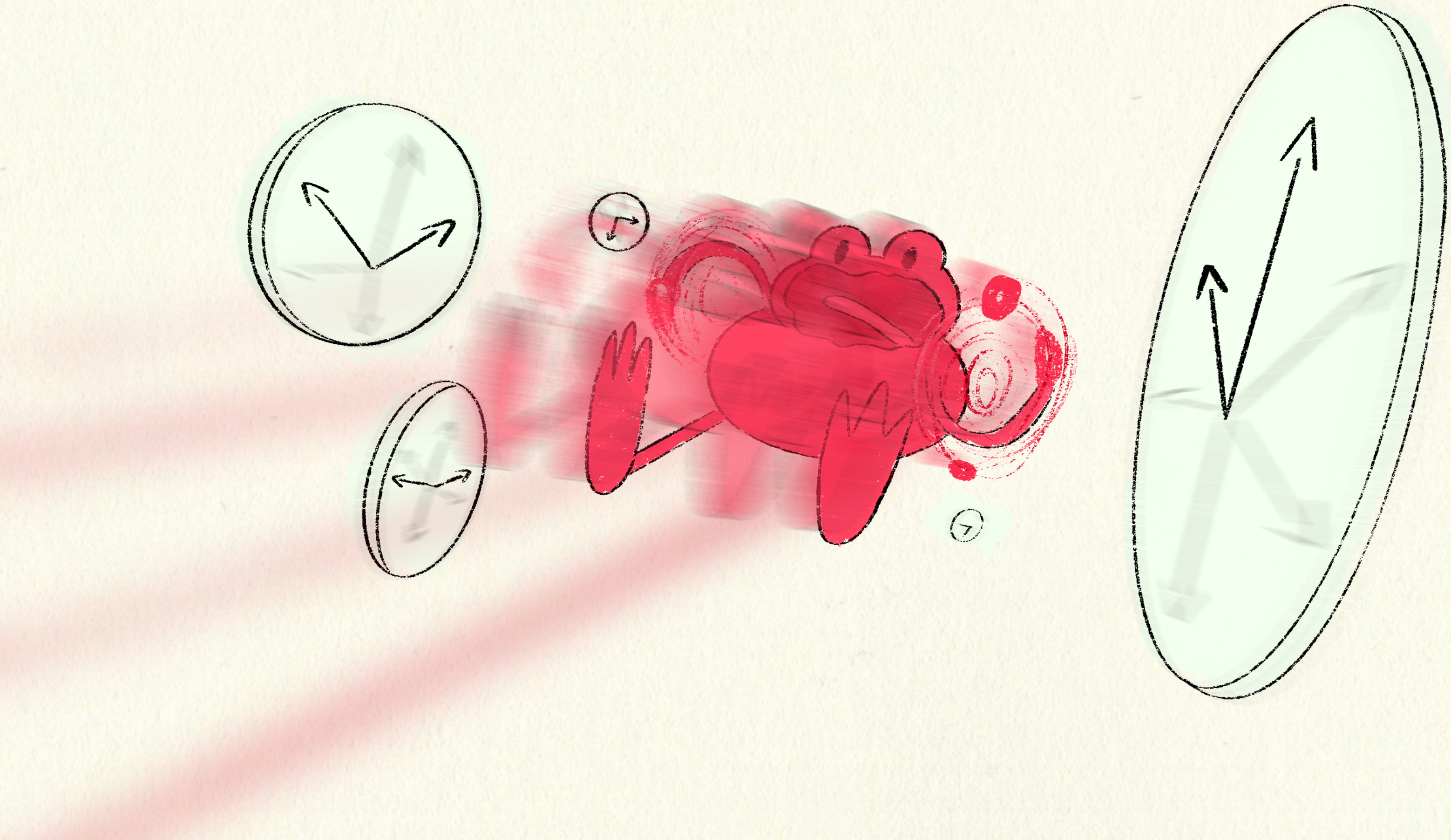
Share your works in image formats, PDFs and Raw files formats like native Procreate file or PSD files. You can also share multiple layers via PDFs, PNGs, GIFs and MP4



Reminder: Procreate files will only open in Procreate

Video

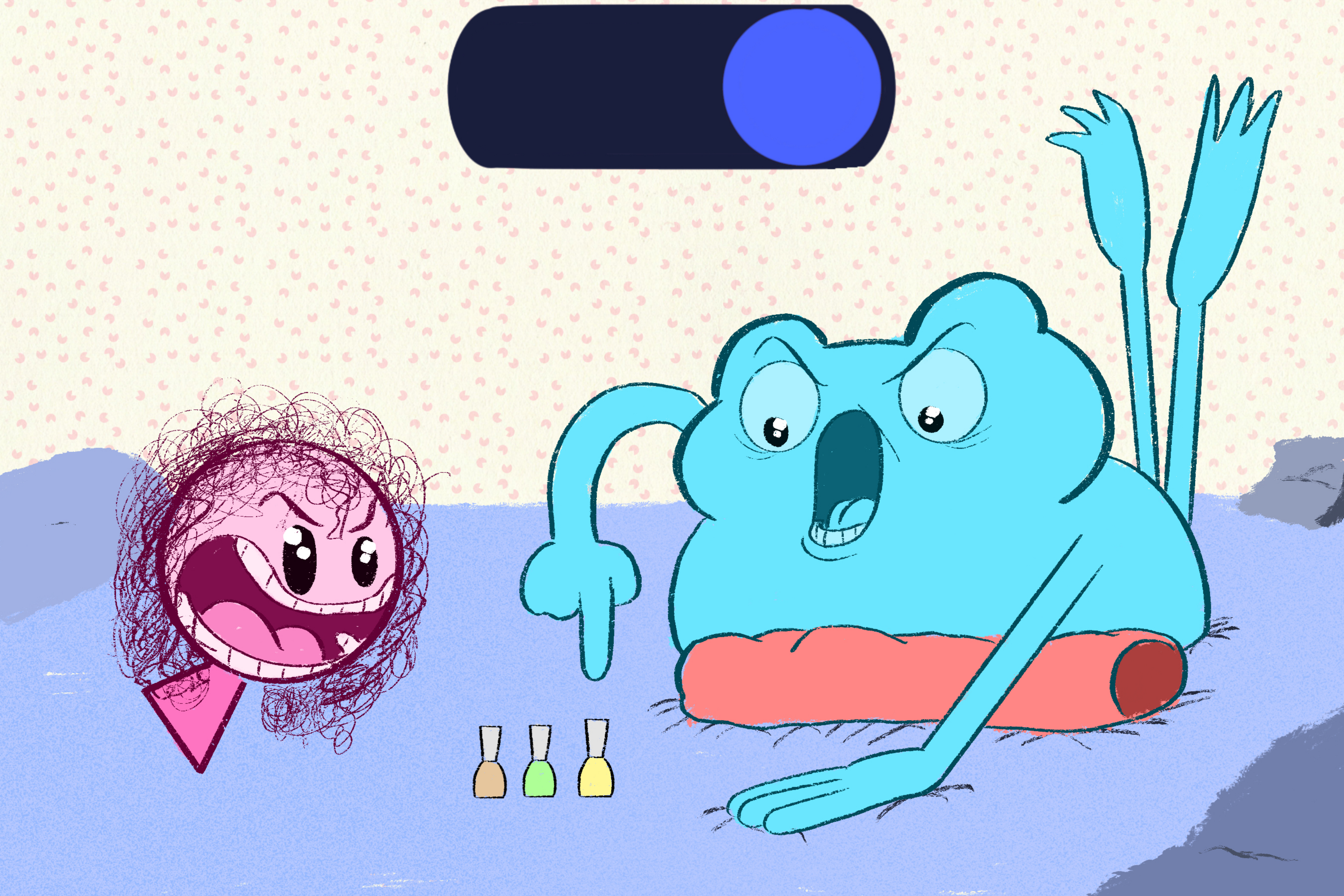
Watch and export your art process as Timelapse videos



Adjust the quality of your Timelapse export when you create a custom canvas

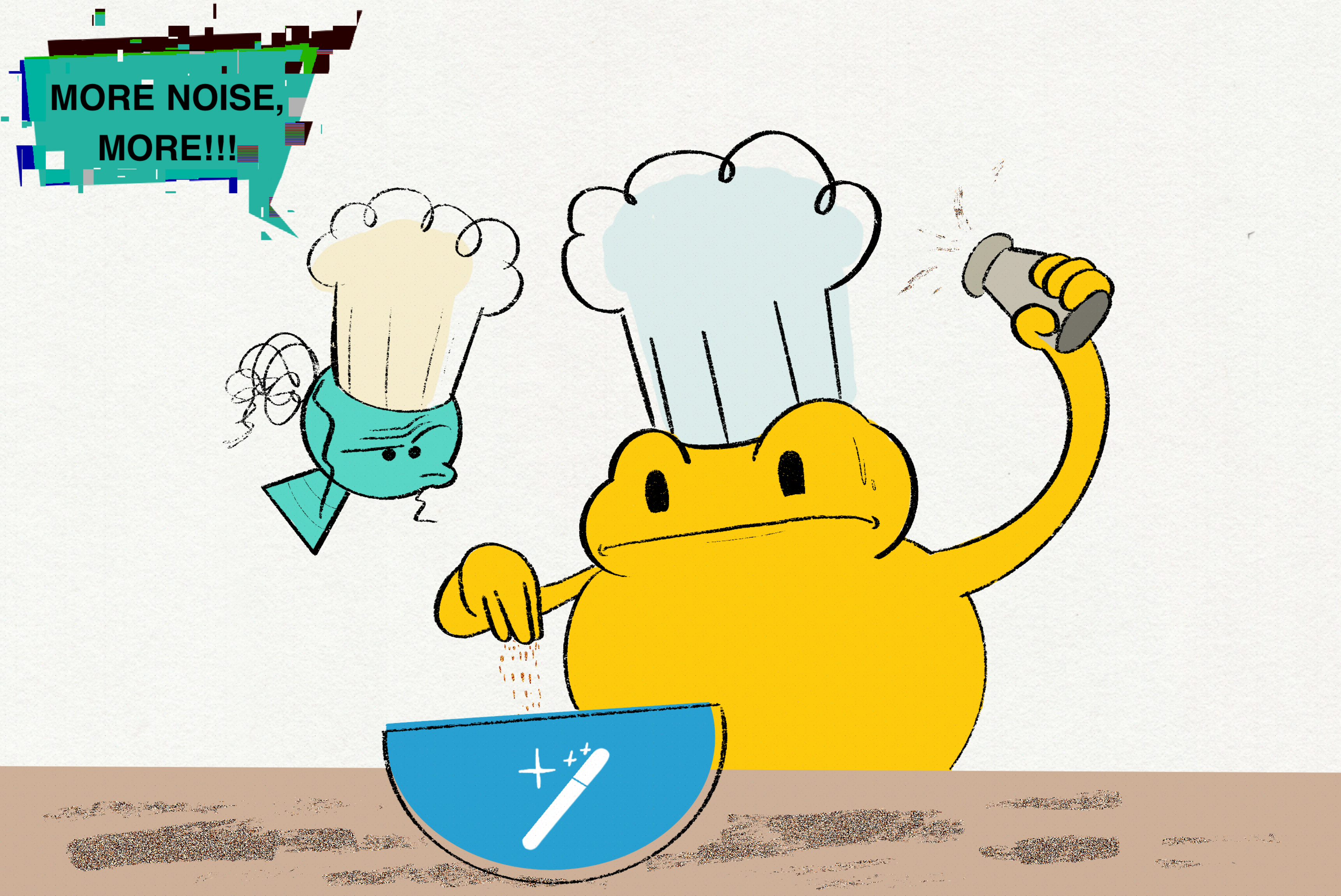
Preferences

Customize your experience in Procreate. Switch to light mode, adjust pressure and edit gesture controls. Here's where you can also enable to the quick menu



Adjustments

Make adjustments to your colors, add Noise and Blur to your image and add special effects like Chromatic Aberration, Glitch effects and Halftones!



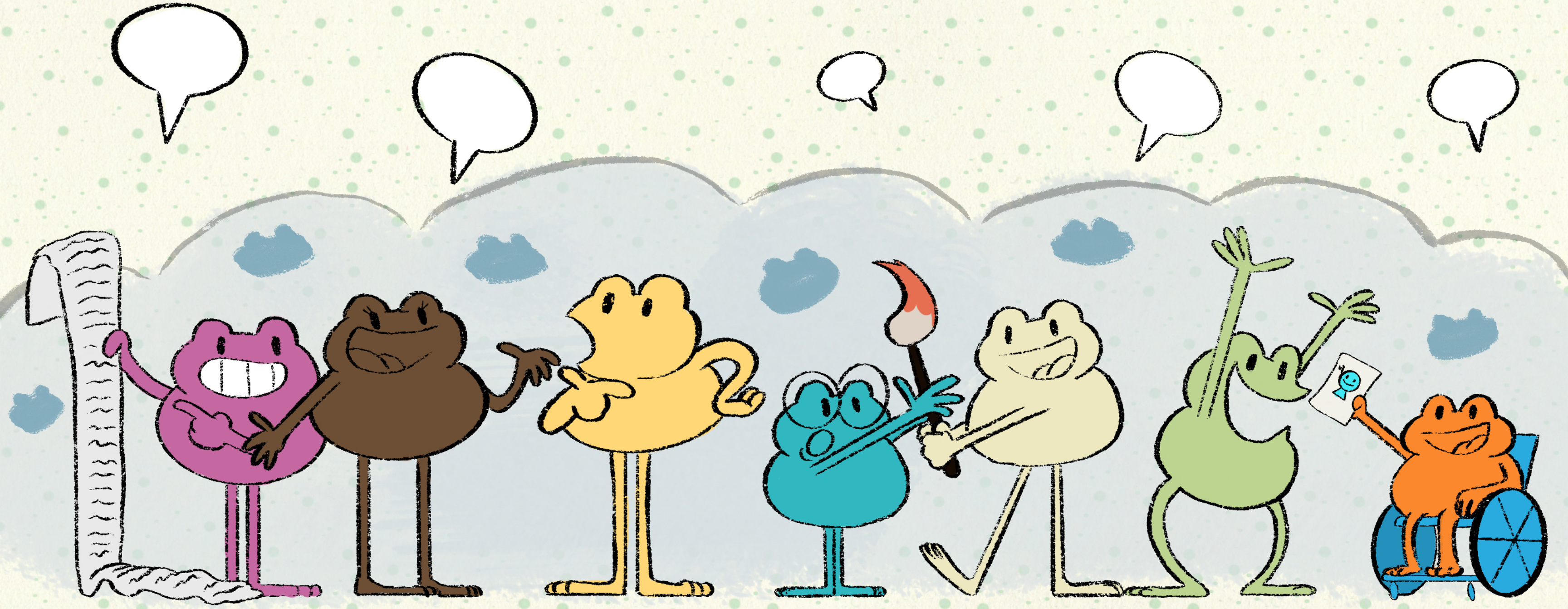
Cloud Backup

Remember to manually backup your projects. This way you can delete and free up space on your Procreate and if you need that file again just download it from your cloud. By default iCloud will be enabled but you can switch backup location in settings. Keeping everything organized will always be worth it later on.

Community

Procreate has an awesome online community where you can post your art, ask for help, check the marketplace get resources and give ideas, suggestions and feedback to the devs on potential future features.

https://folio.procreate.com/discussions



> “Talent is a pursued interest. Anything that you’re willing to practice, you can do.” - Bob Ross

Written & Illustrated

by

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@sketchy_kev

About Author

Animator and Illustrator from Puerto Rico with a passion for learning and teaching. I use visuals to pass on knowledge and make it more accessible and easier to understand.

About 2 years ago I released my first handbook called “Hopping for Harmony”, which was made to teach beginning animators the Toon Boom Harmony software. I’ve been using Procreate for almost a decade now and something I’ve been wanting to do since the first handbook was to create one for this software that has been crucial for my personal growth as an artist. I hope this handbook is able to help you get started on your own journey.

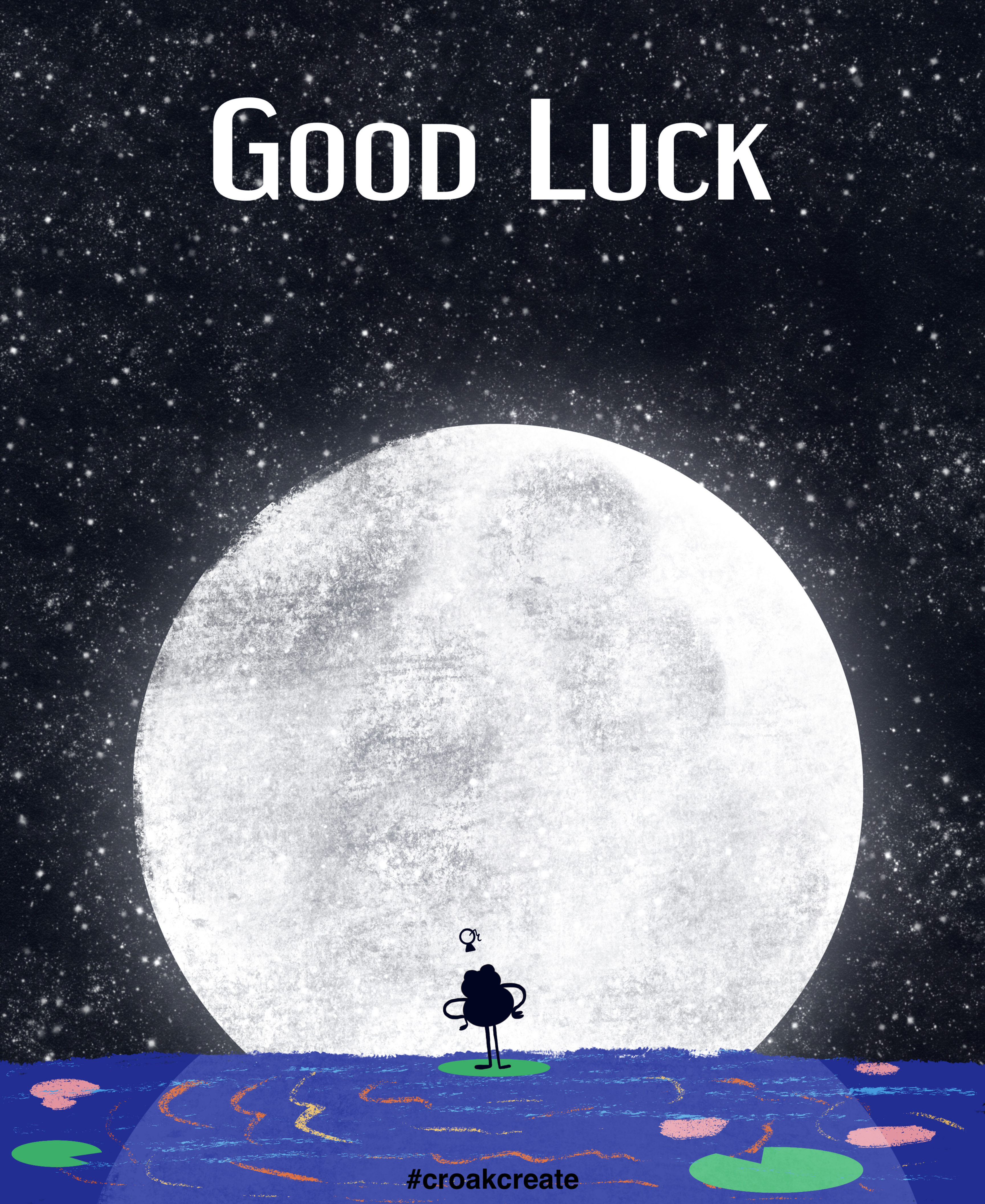
Extra Resources

procreate.com/beginners-series

folio.procreate.com/discussions/10

procreate.com/handbook/procreate/introduction/

Good Luck



#croakcreate